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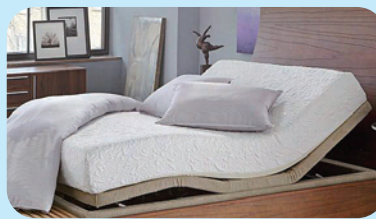
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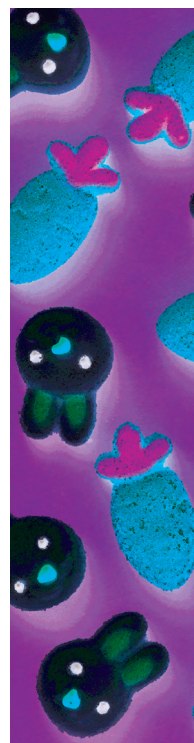





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## Donna's Day: Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Every year about this time, I clip some spindly, crusty-looking brown branches from the forsythia bush in my yard. I shake off any snow, bring them indoors and let kids pound the lower end of the branches with a hammer for efficient uptake of water. I plo p them in warm water in my favorite vase to stand tall as the centerpiece of the kitchen.

Before the dormant buds burst into greens and yellows, I descend into the recesses of my basement to hunt for the bin labeled "Easter," and gather our collection of decorated blown eggs to hang from the branches.

With each design lined up in old egg cartons, I recall the fun of poking holes on both ends of the shells and watching my preschool kids blow out the contents into bowls before each hollowed shell was painted, dyed or decorated. We laughed through each strong breath until they were empty. Omelets were on the dinner menu those nights.

Lurking between our stored family egg art is a "before kids" butterfly design painted by my artist friend Gudrun, a treasure from my Zambia days when I taught at the International School of Lusaka. Along with baskets and drums, the

fragile egg made it to America and has been part of our Easter decor every year. Like special ornaments on a Christmas tree, the simple design represents a friendship I cherish.

Make and keep egg-decorating memories with your kids during the coming days leading up to Easter Sunday. Whether you hang the hollow eggs from branches or display them in a pretty bowl, they'll be visual story starters for lively conversations around your table.

To preserve and store your evolving Easter egg art from year to year, blow the contents of eggs before you decorate.

Here's how:

### Blowing out an egg

Poke a small hole with a large safety pin at each end of a washed raw egg. Carefully wiggle the pin or a toothpick in one of the holes to break the yolk. Place a drinking straw over the hole on top, and blow through the straw, collecting the contents of the egg in a small dish. Rinse out the empty shell and let dry completely before decorating.

### Storage

While you might not be transporting the decorated eggs between continents like I did, clean egg cartons make good containers for neat

stacking in a storage bin in your home.

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Easter egg art to remember.

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## Standard or Itemized: Choose the Deduction Method That's Best for You

**IRS Tax Tip 2015-39, March 16, 2015**

Most people claim the standard deduction when they file their federal tax return. But did you know that you may lower your taxes if you itemize your deductions? Find out if you can save by doing your taxes using both methods. Usually, the bigger the deduction, the lower the tax you have to pay. You should file your tax return using the method that allows you to pay the least amount of tax. The IRS offers these six tips to help you choose:

Use IRS Free File. Most people qualify to use free, brand-name software to prepare and e-file their federal tax returns. IRS Free File is the easiest way to file. Free File software will help you determine if you should itemize and file the right tax forms. It will do the math and e-file your return - all for free. Check your other e-file options if you can't use Free File.

Figure your itemized deductions. Add up deductible expenses you paid during the year. These may include expenses such as:

- Home mortgage interest
- State and local income taxes or sales taxes (but not both)
- Real estate and personal property taxes
- Gifts to charities
- Casualty or theft losses
- Unreimbursed medical expenses

• Unreimbursed employee business expenses

Special rules and limits apply. Visit IRS.gov and refer to Publication 17, Your Federal Income Tax, for more details.

1. Know your standard deduction. If you don't itemize, your basic standard deduction for 2014 depends on your filing status:

- Single \$6,200
- Married Filing Jointly \$12,400
- Head of Household \$9,100
- Married Filing Separately \$6,200
- Qualifying Widow(er) \$12,400

If you're 65 or older or blind, your standard deduction is higher than these amounts. If someone can claim you as a

dependent, your deduction may be limited.

Check the exceptions.

There are some situations where the law does not allow a person to claim the standard deduction. This rule applies if you are married filing a separate return and your spouse itemizes. In this case, you can't claim a standard deduction. You usually will pay less tax if you itemize. See Pub. 17 for more on these rules.

Use the IRS ITA tool. Visit IRS.gov and use the Interactive Tax Assistant that takes you through a series of questions just like one of our customer service representatives would. The tool can help determine your standard deduction. It can also help you

figure several of your itemized deductions.

File the right forms. To itemize your deductions, use Form 1040 and Schedule A, Itemized Deductions. You can take the standard deduction on Forms 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ.



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**Now here's a tip**

by JoAnn Derson

• A good non-slip bathmat is essential in the tub to prevent accidents. Grab an extra one to drape over the edge of the tub for help when entering and exiting.

• "To remove residue left over from price tags, use hairspray. Remove as much paper as possible, then give it a good squirt. Use a plastic scraper to lightly scrape off the adhesive." — L.P. in Ohio

• Got bread ends? Store in a bag in the

freezer until you need breadcrumbs for a recipe. Pulse frozen chunks in a chopper or blender for instantly useable crumbs.

• "Guacamole is a precious commodity at my house, but sometimes I want a snack, not a whole bowl. I have struggled with how to save the leftovers, because once it browns, it's done. I learned a new trick, though. Simply put the leftovers in the smallest container possible and tamp down to press out

all the air. Then carefully add a thin layer of water. Seal and refrigerate for up to three days. When you're ready to dip, pour off the water and stir!" — C.D. in California

• "I have an old cedar chest from my grandmother that had lost its smell. My husband removed all the contents and sanded it with superfine grit sandpaper. It smells wonderful now." — J.K. in Iowa

• Need a quick measure? A dollar bill (or other U.S. paper currency) is exactly 6 inches long.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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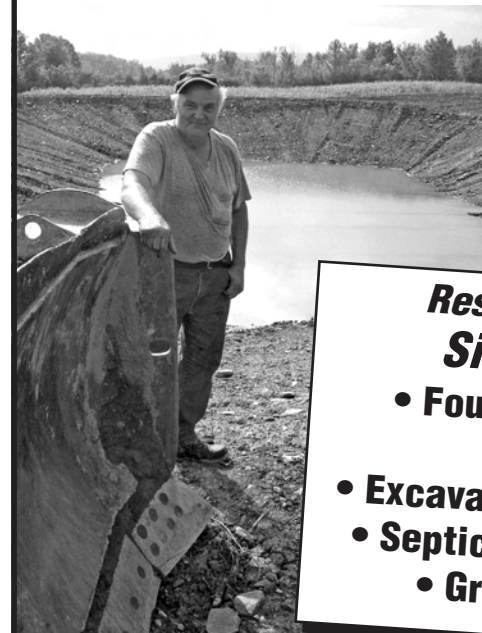
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**Top six tips about the home office deduction**

**IRS Tax Tip 2015-42, March 19, 2015**

If you use your home for business, you may be able to deduct expenses for the business use of your home. If you qualify you can claim the deduction whether you rent or own your home. If you qualify for the deduction you may use either the simplified method or the regular method to claim your deduction. Here are six tips that you should know about the home office deduction.

Regular and Exclusive Use. As a general rule, you must use a part of

your home regularly and exclusively for business purposes. The part of your home used for business must also be:

- Your principal place of business, or
- A place where you meet clients or customers in the normal course of business, or
- A separate structure not attached to your home. Examples could include a garage or a studio.

Simplified Option. If you use the simplified option, you multiply the allowable square footage of your office by a rate of \$5. The maximum footage allowed is 300 square feet. This option will save you time because it simplifies how you figure and claim the deduction. It will also make it easier for you to keep records. This option does not change the criteria for who may claim a home office deduction.

Regular Method. If you use the regular method, the home office deduction

includes certain costs that you paid for your home. For example, if you rent your home, part of the rent you paid may qualify. If you own your home, part of the mortgage interest, taxes and utilities you paid may qualify. The amount you can deduct usually depends on the percentage of your home used for business.

Deduction Limit. If your gross income from the business use of your home is less than your expenses, the deduction for some expenses may be limited.

Self-Employed. If you are self-employed and choose the regular method, use Form 8829, Expenses for Business Use of Your Home, to figure the amount you can deduct. You can claim your deduction using either method on Schedule C, Profit or Loss From Business. See the Schedule C instructions for how to report your deduction.

Employees. If you are an employee, you must meet additional rules to claim the deduction. For example, your business use must also be for the convenience of your employer. If you qualify, you claim the deduction on Schedule A, Itemized Deductions.

For more on this topic, see Publication 587, Business Use of Your Home. You can view, download and print IRS tax forms and publications on IRS.gov/forms anytime.

If you found this Tax Tip helpful, please share it through your social media platforms. A great way to get tax information is to use IRS Social Media. You can also subscribe to IRS Tax Tips or any of our e-news subscriptions.

Additional IRS Resources:

- FAQs - Simplified Method for Home Office Deduction

IRS YouTube Videos:  
 • Simplified Home Office Deduction - English | Spanish | ASL

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2007 CHRYSLER 300 Touring, white, 84k, V-6, auto, leather, alloys, SALE: \$12,495. John C. Miller, Inc. 518-762-7124  
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**Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> • 7pm**  
**Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> • 3pm**

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 ◆ NY Strip Steak w/Potato & Veg  
 ◆ Turkey Club w/Chips

**Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**  
 ◆ Stuffed Pork Chops w/Potato & Veg  
 ◆ Sm Crispy Chicken Salad

**Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**  
 ◆ ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI 3-7 PM  
 ◆ Mexican Club w/Fries  
 ◆ Spaghetti w/Meatballs, Hot Sausage and/or Toss Salad

**Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
 ◆ Chicken-N-Biscuits w/Veg  
 ◆ Popper Burger w/Fries

**Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**  
 ◆ Fresh Haddock Dinner Baked or Fried, w/Potato & Veg  
 ◆ Mac-N-Cheese w/Veg  
 ◆ New England Clam Chowder

**Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**  
 ◆ Fried Clams w/Potato & Veg  
 ◆ Prime Rib w/Potato & Veg 3-7 PM

**Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**  
 ◆ Red White & Blue Waffle  
 Breakfast Only - Closed at 12:30pm

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## Dollars and Sense

by David Uffington

Are the kids talking about summer camp yet? It's time to start investigating the possibilities and get them signed up.

Look into day or sleep-away camps at colleges near you. Look for math, computer and science camps run by older students. Drama majors especially love to introduce theater to kids. The fees for these day camps are typically fairly low.

For older kids, combining sleep-away camp with their interests could lead to new career possibilities. Spending a week on a farm could lead an animal lover in the direc-

tion of veterinary medicine. A water or ocean-related camp could lead to a career in marine ecology. A week at video camp could open opportunities in television, digital media, advertising and more.

When it comes to special interests, no matter what they are, there's a camp for it. If your child wants to get a head start with SAT tests, there are prep camps for that. Photography, rock music songwriting, entrepreneurship, wilderness adventure — they all have camps. Check [www.campage.com](http://www.campage.com) and explore the information in the drop-down

menus.

Search through the offerings at [www.campresource.com](http://www.campresource.com). It has comprehensive listings of sleep-away camps, day camps, co-ed, boys, girls and traditional camps. Use the drop-down menus to search for camp types, activities and locations. For kids who want a new experience, search for camps that emphasize Nashville music, rodeo riding, PGA golf or hockey. Look for teen travel camps that provide tours and camps all over the globe. Language majors can take advantage of language immersion camps and tours, and more.

There's even a roller-coaster camp! It involves visiting amusement parks across the country in one, two, three, four and six-week camps.

For younger children that you want to keep nearby, check the resources around you for traditional camps at recreation departments, the YMCA and churches. They're sure to provide plenty of summer activities: swimming, boating, archery, sports, arts and crafts, and singing around the campfire.

When it comes to choosing a camp, the American Camp Association has must-read information at [www.aca-camps.org](http://www.aca-camps.org). Look for How to Choose a Camp: Safety Tips. Learn about the difference between accreditation versus licensing, questions to ask camp directors, camper-to-counselor ratios and how the camp handles behavioral and disciplinary problems.

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Located off Rt. 29 in Salisbury Center. Take North Rd. to Mang Rd.

Closed Good Friday

# Thank You!

I would like to thank the good people of Saint Johnsville who voted for me on Wednesday, March 18th as a write-in candidate for the Mayoral Race. This victory is indeed SWEET and I promise to continue our progress for a better Saint Johnsville. Especially, I would like to extend my gratitude to Martha and Mike Mancini, Larry Schoff and Carmen Licari, who were instrumental in this effort.

Sincerely,  
Bernard Barnes  
Mayor of Saint Johnsville

Paid for by the concerned citizens of St. Johnsville, NY



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2012 HYUNDAI SONATA SE TURBO, Black only 12,000 miles, 4cyl turbo, auto, moonroof, full power. Sale: \$18,995. John C. Miller Inc. 518-762-7124. www.johncmiller.com

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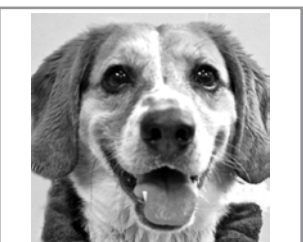
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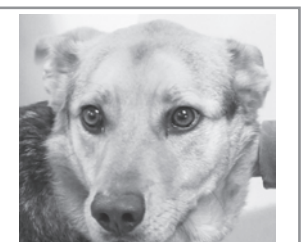
**RIO** - 4 1/2 - 5 year old male Manchester Terrier mix. Came to the shelter on February 18th. High-spirited, lively dog and would like lots of exercise. Not good with cats or with small children.



**NICK** - 6-8 year old male Beagle mix, 36 lbs. Found on Dygert Road, Canajoharie in March 2010. Active dog who loves his toys and tennis balls. Should be only pet in an adult home.



**THUNDER** - 6 year old male Pit Bull mix, 52 lbs. Found in Canajoharie in August 2012. Knows "sit" and loves chest or belly rubs! Not good with dogs, cats or kids. Housebroken.



**KIRK** - 3-4 year old male Shephard mix. Found on Route 162, Town of Charleston on January 11th. He's a sweet dog with a wonderful smile and beautiful eyes.



**SPENCER** - 7 year old male Pit Bull, 55 lbs. People friendly and playful. OK with some dogs, not good with cats. Likes to sit at your feet and "lean"!



**MONTANA** - 3 year old male Pit Bull mix, 46 lbs. Found on Old Fort Plain Road, Canajoharie in October 2012. Not good with cats. Fine with older kids.



**CRUZ** - Handsome 2-3 year old white male Pit Bull, 55 lbs. Found on Garfield St., Fonda in November 2012. Fine with kids. Not good with cats. Housebroken.



**BAXTER** - 2-3 year old brindle and white male Pit Bull/Beagle mix. Found on Route 10 between Hickory Hill and Stone Arabia Roads, Palatine on March 1st. Sweet-natured and affectionate.



**TYSON** - 4 year old male Pit Bull, 64 lbs. Knows commands, loves car rides, swimming and treats. Should be your only pet in an adult home. Housebroken.



**DOZER** - 1-2 year old male brown and white Pit Bull. Found on Cty. Hwy. 107, Johnstown near Harry's Auto on February 28th. Sweet and sociable, a real charmer!



**STEWIE** - 5-7 year old dark tiger male. Very friendly. Came to the shelter March 10, 2015.



**ROWDY** - 2 year old male tiger (with white) Found in a barn in Charleston in August 2012. Very playful and fun to watch. Fine with other cats.



**PARIS** - Darling 2 year old black female. Came to the shelter March 10th with sister Frenchie.



**FRENCHIE** - Lovely 2 year old black and white female. Playful and responsive. Came to the shelter March 10th with sister Paris.



**ZEUS** - 4-6 year old gray (blue) male with a wonderful expressive face! He was found on Hilltop Road, Sprakers on December 29, 2014. He's not good with dogs.



**MICK** - Handsome 6 to 8 year old black male. Found on Lynk St., Sprakers on January 7, 2015. Mick isn't good with dogs.



**AXEL** - Longhaired gray male, about 6 years old. Very sweet. Came to the shelter March 7th.



**RASCAL** - 2 year old tiger and white male. Found in a barn in Charleston in August 2012. Very playful and fun to watch. Fine with other cats.



**Annual Bowling Tournament** to benefit The Ayres Memorial Animal Shelter ~ *A Quality of Life Shelter*  
**Sunday, March 29th** Iroquois Lanes, 192 Erie Blvd., Canajoharie  
**4 person team - \$80 per team • 9 pin no tap format • 1 Shift ONLY 1PM • Door Prizes & Raffles**  
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## Bring your old apple tree back to its former glory

by Lee Reich, Associated Press

A neglected, overgrown, old apple tree does have charm, its gnarled, elbowed branches seemingly reaching out for a hug. The fruits, unfortunately, are more often than not too small, too high and too pest-ridden.

But don't despair: Such a tree can be returned to its former glory by "renovation," as corrective pruning of an old tree is called.

Before picking up a pruning tool, ask yourself whether the effort involved in renovating a tree will be justified.

Is the tree of a particularly good variety? (Take into account that renovation would bring some improve-

ments in fruit size and flavor.)

Do you really want a tree where that tree stands?

Would one or more dwarf trees, which can be cared for while you stand securely on terra firma, be more practical? Dwarf trees also offer a greater bounty for the space they occupy — hence the move toward smaller trees among fruit farmers.

### Cut drastically, but not too many limbs

If you want to keep the tree and go ahead with renovation, begin now, while it's dormant, by drastically cutting back one or two large limbs near their origin lower in the tree. Hold off making additional drastic cuts until next year, perhaps the year after also, to avoid shocking the tree.

Those drastic cuts quickly lower the tree and open up what remains to light and air. Lowering the tree makes picking easier. Letting in more light provides nourishment for fruit buds and, along with better air circulation, reduces disease problems by hastening drying of leaves and fruits.

It may be wise to hire a professional to do these first cuts, depending on how drastic they are.

It's impossible to prescribe exactly how far back to cut these large limbs. It depends on the tree's present and desired form. Just remember that new fruiting wood will begin above whatever height you cut a limb back to.

### Sprouts make new limbs

Ideally, make your cuts back to well-placed side branches. But don't worry if no side branch is growing off near your cut because new sprouts, the tree's future limbs, will grow from dormant buds.

Actually, too many new sprouts will grow. Remove most of them. It's easiest to visit your tree every few weeks through spring and summer, firmly grabbing any excess sprouts with your hand and removing them with a sharp downward jerk. Save sprouts that are well-placed as far as spacing and height of origin to make new limbs.

Any wayward sprouts that you miss during the summer could also be pruned back this time next year, but re-sprouting from their bases is then more likely. Be ruthless with sprout removal because too many new branches crowding each other will put the tree back where it started, with shaded, dank branches.

### On to detailed pruning, and a hug

After making those large cuts, proceed to more detailed pruning with a small pruning saw and a lopping shear. Cut back dead, broken or diseased branches to sound wood. Also remove stems that are overcrowded or weak. Such stems typically grew in shaded parts of the tree and droop downwards. Either cut them off completely or shorten them to the point where they start their downward arc.

The final and most detailed cuts are of the spurs, those short, stubby branches — only an inch or two long — on which fruits are born. Old apple trees commonly have too many spurs, which spreads a tree's resources among so many fruits that those that do ripen are small and poor-quality. Use hand-held pruning shears to completely remove some spurs, and to remove just a side branch or two from others.

For the finishing touch, tidy up the bark. Loose, old bark provides refuge for pests such as codling moth larvae. Scrape the bark clean with a short-handled hoe or some balled-up chicken wire. Be gentle, though — remove only the loose surface bark.

Now stand back and admire your work. Cleaned up, an old apple tree looks even more charming than it did when it was overgrown. Now give your tree a hug.



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## JR's Auction

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**Antique, Furniture and Consignment Auction**  
Tuesday, March 24th 5:00pm Antiques, Furniture, Tools, Household and more!!

Already consigned - Furniture, Tools, Antiques, Household and much more!!  
Bring your items!! Receiving times for consignments is Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 8:00am to 5:00pm. Closed Thurs., and Sat. Don't Miss This Auction!!

---

**Public Farm Machinery Auction**  
Saturday, March 28th 10:00am  
707 Thompson Rd., Little Falls, NY

Case IH DC x 101 Discbine 10' 4" cut on steel wheels, New Holland 4 Star Tedder on rubber wheels, Agco V Rake 10 wheel on steel, Hesston Agco Inline Baler on steel, 48' Zimmerman Elevator on steel wheels, 3-16' Hay Wagons, 4 Wheel Miller Power Cart with 98 HP Deutz Diesel 540-1000 gear, 4 Wheel Miller Power Cart with 40 HP Deutz Diesel 540 gear, 4 Row John Deere No Till Corn Planter row cleaners on steel wheels, 2 Row NI Corn Picker on steel wheels, John Deere 400 Grinder Mixer on rubber wheels, 10' Cultimulcher, ELS Liquid Manure Spreader 2900 gallon with engine, Approx. 4000' 6" lay flat hose, Ingersoll Rand Forklift all terrain with Cummins Diesel on rubber wheels, Ingersoll Rand Air Compressor Tow Behind with John Deere Diesel, White Horse Fore Cart, John Deere Grain Drill on rubber wheels, 7-1000' Gallon Air Tanks, 6-Hidden View Circulator Pumps for hot water, 300 gallon Fuel Tanks, 6" Value for manure line, 5' Aluminum Fill Pipe, Hydraulic Unit Battery Powered, 10 Work Horses 1-Team 13 year grey Percheron gelding and mare well broke, 1-Team 5 and 6 year grey Percheron geldings well broke, 1-Team 13 year old Percheron gelding and mare well broke, 1-Team 11 and 14 year old grey Percheron mares well broke, 1-Team 14 and 17 year old 1 black and 1 grey Percheron mares well broke, 10 Bio Plastic Harnesses!!

10 Bio Plastic Harnesses, 2500 bales 1st cutting hay, 25-30 Acres Standing Corn, Large Pile of Ear Corn, Shovels, Rakes, Hoes, Dirt Shovels, Wheel Barrow, Anvil, Misc. Tools, Amish Pick Up Carriage, Table Saw, some shop tools, & other smalls, also Frozen Turkeys 100+ raised on the farm, 20 Cases of Frozen Chicken!!

This equipment is in working condition and ready to go!! Emanuel and his family are planning on moving to the state of Indiana and not everything can go with them!! Come on over to the Auction!! Bring your whole family and lots of friends!! Don't Miss This Auction!!  
Terms of the Auction are Cash, Check, or Credit Card, 10% Buyers premium on items under \$1000.00 No Buyer's Premium on large high dollar items!! Please make plans to remove your items as soon as possible, Lunch stand by Amish ladies!! Announcements on day of Auction take precedence over written material!!  
Auction conducted by JR'S Auction 518-993-4668. Terms by owners Emanuel and Susie Stoltzfus.

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**Antique, Furniture and Consignment Auction**  
Tuesday, March 31st 5:00pm Antiques, Furniture, Tools, Household and more!!

Already consigned is a Furniture, Tools, Antiques, Household and much more!!  
Bring your items!! Receiving times for consignments is Monday Wednesday and Fridays from 8:00am to 5:00pm

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**Food Auction**  
Wednesday, April 1st 6:00pm

Large Truck Load Of Meats, Hams, Cheese, Yogurt, Snacks, Beef Sticks, Candy, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper and lots more!!

## B-Subik Farms

### Inventory Reduction & Consignment Sale

# Sat., April 4, 2015 at 10:00 AM

692 Old Trail Rd., Fonda, NY 12068  
Route 5 East of Fonda. Follow Auction Signs

**TRACTORS**  
Ford 9700, 2WD; JD 4020, cab; Case 1370, cab, 2WD; JD 1020; Minn Moline 5 Star, Project; Ford 7700 (bad motor)

**HEAVY EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS & TRAILERS**  
JD 410C Backhoe, 4x4 extendahoe; JD 250 skid steer, low hrs., very nice; Bobcat S100 skid steer; JD 1020 dozer; 1995 F800 box truck w/liftgate; Int. 6 wheel dump truck; Eager Beaver detach equip. trailer; 24' tri-axle equip. trailer.

**HAY EQUIPMENT**  
8860 Case IH SP mower, low hrs., exc. shape; NH 575 baler w/thrower, sharp; JD 336 baler w/kicker; NH 273 baler; Hesston round baler; NH 163 4-Star tedder; 5 hay wagons, 3 metal, 2 wood; 2 NH 258 rollbar rakes; NH 489 haybine; New Idea 7' cutditcher; NH 630 round baler.

**HARVESTING EQUIPMENT**  
JD 5200 SP chopper, 4x4, only 600 hrs, one owner, super nice!; Int. 82 pull type combine; NH 790 chopper; Gehl 1075 chopper, 3 row w/hay heads, processor

**PLANTING & TILLAGE EQUIPMENT**  
15' Hinkler no-till air drill; Int. 900 6 row corn planter; Amco 14' disc, rock flex, nice; 12' cultimulchers; 3 sets single roll cultimulchers; 2 sets JD plows; set 24' fold up drags

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
2 forage blowers; 2 Century field crop sprayers, hyd. fold booms; 3pt. fert. spreader; running gears; 3632 NI manure spreader; Meyers 7400 spreader; Int. grinder mixer; 3 Badger SU wagons (boxes only); Honda 3 wheeler; 25kw generator; enclosed snowmobile trailer; large amount of hardware; snowblowers; rototillers; finish mowers, etc. More arriving daily!

**TERMS:** 10% Buyers premium on all items, \$1,000 & down. All sales as is, where is. Cash or good check. Positive ID required.

**Taking Consignments Brian Subik 518-848-4669**  
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## WEEKLY SALES EVERY MONDAY HOSKING SALES

Weekly Sales Every Monday 11:30 with Misc. & Small animals, 1:00 Dairy, followed by feeders, sheep, lamb, goats, pigs. Calves start at 5PM followed by cull beef. Call for more info and note all times are approximate.

Our volume is increasing weekly - join your neighbors & send your livestock our way!

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**Monday, Mar. 16th** - Sold 305 Head. Cull ave. \$ .90, Top cow \$1.10, Bulls/Steers \$1.16 - \$1.31, bull calves top \$4.50, heifer calf top \$2.55, Dairy Feeders \$.58 - \$1.49, Dairy Grade Milking age top \$1850, bred heifers top \$1800, Open heifers top \$970, heifer calves top \$330.

**Monday, Mar. 23rd** - Normal Monday Sale and Organic Day & Easter Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig and Small Animal Sale. Group of lambs from one flock with a few cull sheep. With several other consignors.

**Monday, Mar. 30th** - Normal Monday Sale - Easter Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig and Small Animal Sale

**Saturday, April 4th** - 11:30AM Spring All-Breed Premier Sale. 100 Head of Registered All Breed Dairy Cattle accepted for this sale. Farms represented: Oakfield Corners, Arethusa Farm, Echo Farm, Locust-Vale, Wisbee Farm, Jo-Ray Farm, Osborne Farm, Fantasy-Found, Roseland Farm, Merrill Farm, Tiger-Lily, Ju-Vindale, Sco-Li, Lawton Jerseys, Ayrshires: Evans, James. Plus more! Also selling semen tank XR16 and semen: mostly Semex - Discovery, Parker, Atlee, Rylee, Casino plus more. Please bring your tanks.

**Monday, April 6th** - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Fat Cow & Feeder Sale.

**Saturday, April 11th** - 11AM Spring Beef Spectacular Turnout Sale. A group of Hereford feeders from one farm. Group of Herefords with 5-6 feeders along with 7-8 bred cow. 3 Hereford/Simmental Crosses bred heifers, 3 Hereford/Simmental Steers, 2 - 5yr. Hereford Cows due in Spring to Hereford, 1 Red & 1 black Simmental Heifers due in fall. Calls are coming in daily with consignments expecting a nice group. Feeder market is increasing daily if you want mid-western prices this is the place to sell them. Accepting consignments for this sale

**Monday, April 13th** - Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Heifer Sale.

**Saturday, April 18th** - 9AM - Annual Spring Machinery & Equipment Auction. We will also be selling Trees & Shrubs. Accepting consignments from single items to full lines of equipment. We will be starting at 9AM on small items, tools and plants.

**Saturday, April 25th** - Norwich, NY. 11:00AM Sears Complete Machinery & Equipment Auction. Small tools, shop equip., Snap-On Tool boxes, haying equipment, JD 2150 & JD 2955 Tractors, Skid steer, 30' Gooseneck Trailer plus much more. Complete listing on website.

**Wednesday, April 29th** - 11:00AM sale held at Windy Acres Farm. GPS: 829 County Rt. 29, New Berlin or Norwich, NY. Tornado Valley Complete Registered Jersey Dairy Dispersal. 87 Head of cattle sell. 48 Milking age in all stages of lactation, 20 short bred to springing, 16 yearlings to newborn, 3 bulls.

**Saturday, May 2nd** - Sale held at Rick & Paula Evans. GPS: 4997 St. Hwy. 23, Norwich, NY. Tornado Valley Complete Machinery & Equipment Dispersal

**Saturday, May 16th** - Important Sale - Registered Cattle - Watch for more details.

**LOOKING TO HAVE A FARM SALE OR JUST SELL A FEW - GIVE US A CALL.**  
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**Watch website for any last minute updates.**  
**Directions:** Hosking Sales, 6096 NYS Rt. 8, 30 miles South of Utica & 6 miles North of New Berlin, NY.

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& Family or 607-847-8800  
6096 NYS Rt. 8, New Berlin, NY 13411 cell: 607-972-1770 or 1771

## KING'S

Sun., March 22nd Breeder Sale ~ 11:33am

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Sat., March 28th Consignment Auction ~ 6:33pm

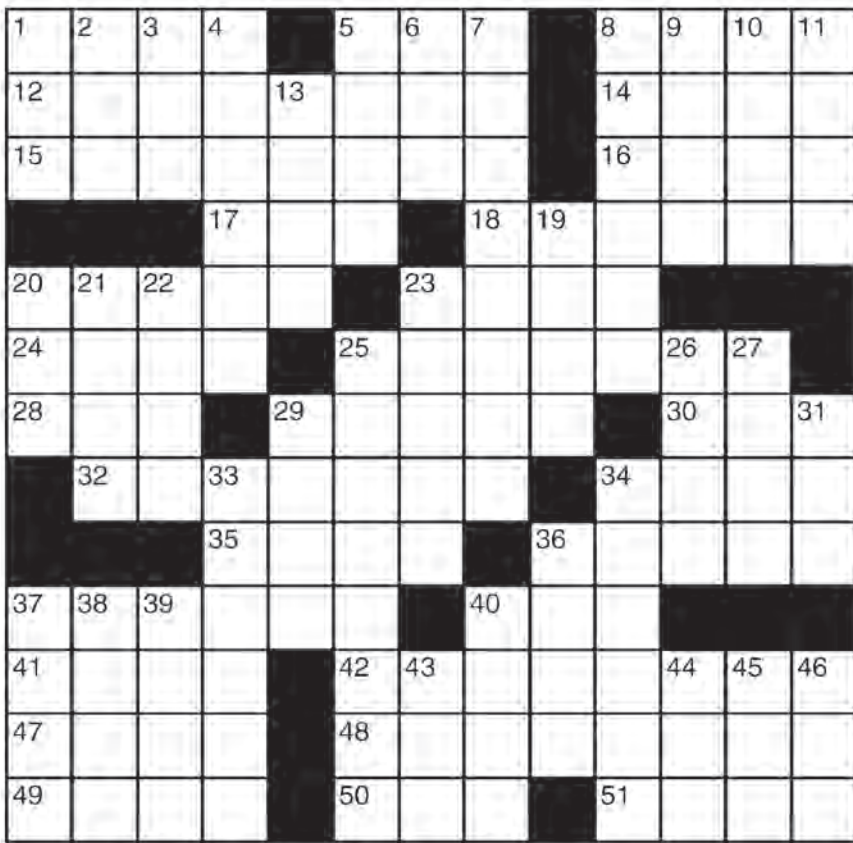
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Thurs., April 2nd Food Auction ~ 6:33pm

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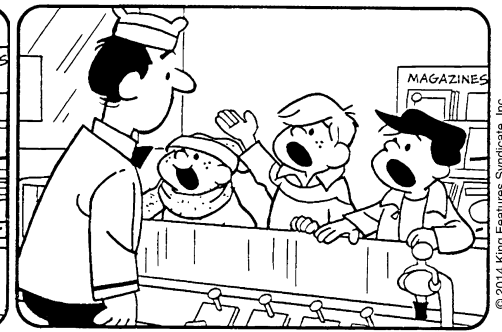
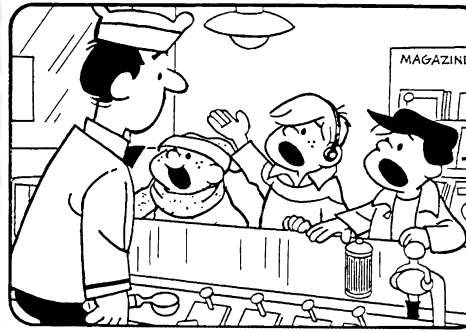


- ACROSS**
- 1 At the summit of
  - 5 Two-timer
  - 8 Feathered missile
  - 12 Playwright Hansberry
  - 14 Reverberate
  - 15 Skilled at painting
  - 16 Neighborhood
  - 17 That woman
  - 18 Look for typos, maybe
  - 20 Mixed metal
  - 23 — moss
  - 24 Harness strap
  - 25 Badmouthed big-time
  - 28 Distant
  - 29 Give a leg
  - 30 Deteriorate
  - 32 Tire
  - 34 Taj Mahal city
  - 35 Pay attention
  - 36 Weapon since 1952
  - 37 Go back
  - 40 Festive
  - 41 Sandwich cookie
- DOWN**
- 1 — carte
  - 2 Craggy peak
  - 3 Table scrap
  - 4 Penitentiary
  - 5 Give as an example
  - 6 Blackbird
  - 7 Lessen
  - 8 Inadequate supply
  - 9 Farm measure
  - 10 Comical Caroline
  - 11 Frog's cousin
  - 13 Wan
  - 19 Right on the map?
  - 20 "Bow-wow"
  - 21 Fall faller
  - 22 Old Italian money
  - 23 Boastful, perhaps
  - 25 As one
  - 26 Therefore
- ACROSS**
- 42 Related to "the sum of the parts"
  - 47 Active one
  - 48 Eternally, to a poet
  - 49 Catch sight of
  - 50 Scooted
  - 51 Penn or Combs
- DOWN**
- 27 College quarters
  - 29 Coffin stand
  - 31 Bill
  - 33 Speculation
  - 34 Bottomless pits
  - 36 Tresses
  - 37 Took the bus
  - 38 Cupid's alias
  - 39 Second in command, often
  - 40 Singer Campbell
  - 43 Eggs
  - 44 Sock part
  - 45 A Gershwin brother
  - 46 100 yrs.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Cap is missing; 2. Scoop is missing; 3. Light is missing; 4. Headset is missing; 5. Straw holder is missing; 6. Rack is lower.

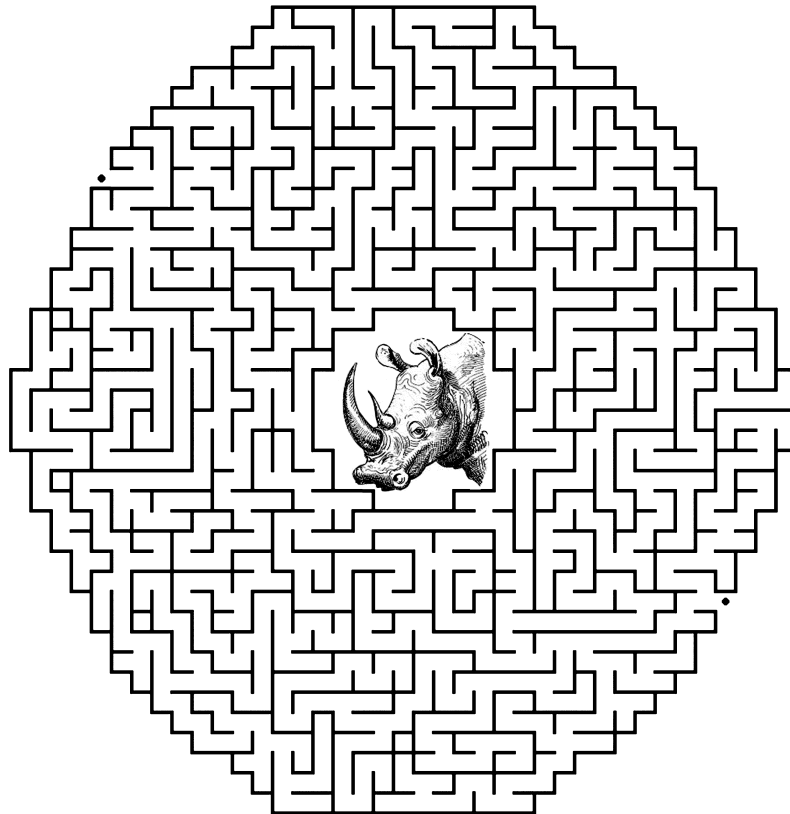
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Mega Maze

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**"Respect your efforts, respect yourself. Self-respect leads to self-discipline. When you have both firmly under your belt, that's real power."**  
— Clint Eastwood

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		6	1			5
9			2	4	8	
	5			6		1
7			5			3
		2		7		5
	8		3		9	
		4			5	
	3			4		9
5		8	9			2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★**

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging  
★★★ HOO BOY!

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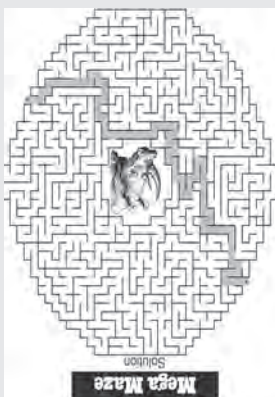
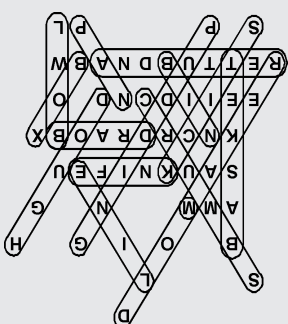
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 U Q N J G D Z W T Q N K H D A  
 X U R P M J G D D A X V S Q N  
 K S I F D A L X V T Q O M J H  
 F C B A Y O W I U G R P H N L  
 J H A M M R E N N I W G F D B  
 Z X S A U K N I F E U V T R Q  
 O M K N C R D R A O B X K I H  
 F E E I I D C N D D O B Z Y W  
 R E T T U B D N A B W V T R Q  
 O S N P L K I H F P L D C A Z

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

- And butter
- Basket
- Bin
- Board
- Bowl
- Box
- Crumbs
- Dough
- Knife
- Line
- Maker
- Mold
- Pan
- Pudding
- Stick

ANSWERS



4	2	9	7	3	9	8	1	5
2	3	7	6	4	8	9	5	1
6	9	4	1	2	5	3	7	8
1	8	5	3	6	9	7	4	2
3	9	2	4	7	1	5	8	9
7	4	9	5	8	2	1	3	6
4	5	3	8	9	6	2	1	7
6	7	1	2	5	4	8	6	3
8	2	6	7	1	3	4	9	5

Answer  
Weekly SUDOKU

S	O	S						
D	U	S						
M	E	L	D					
L	A	I						
W	O	N						
A	G	U						
L	A	I						
D	U	L						
L	E	A						
C	H	E						
C	K							
R	Y	E						
T	C							
P	E	A						
W	M	A						
O	N	N						
T	I	B						
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L	A	N						
S	K	I						
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A	R	T						
J	A	D						
D	E							
F	I	S						
T								
D	I	G						
A	G	A						
N	O	N						
O	V	A						
L	E	E						
U	N	I						
T	C	A						

Solution time: 24 mins.  
Answers  
King Crossword



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# Whatchamacallit

Trench art is any decorative item made by soldiers, prisoners of war or civilians, where the manufacture is directly linked to armed conflict or its consequences. Common articles that this includes are decorated shell and bullet casings and items carved from wood and bone. There is much evidence to prove that some trench art was made in the trenches, by soldiers, during the war. Some soldiers would press their regimental buttons into the clay on the floor of the trench, then pouring molten lead from shrapnel balls into this

impression to make lead replicas. Not limited to the World Wars, the history of trench art spans conflicts from the Napoleonic Wars to the present day. Although the practice flourished during World War I, the term 'trench art' is also used to describe souvenirs manufactured by service personnel during World War II.

The German army that fought in World War I was not in fact a single, unitary army. All the monarchies as a part of the German empire had its own armies. Since the unification of

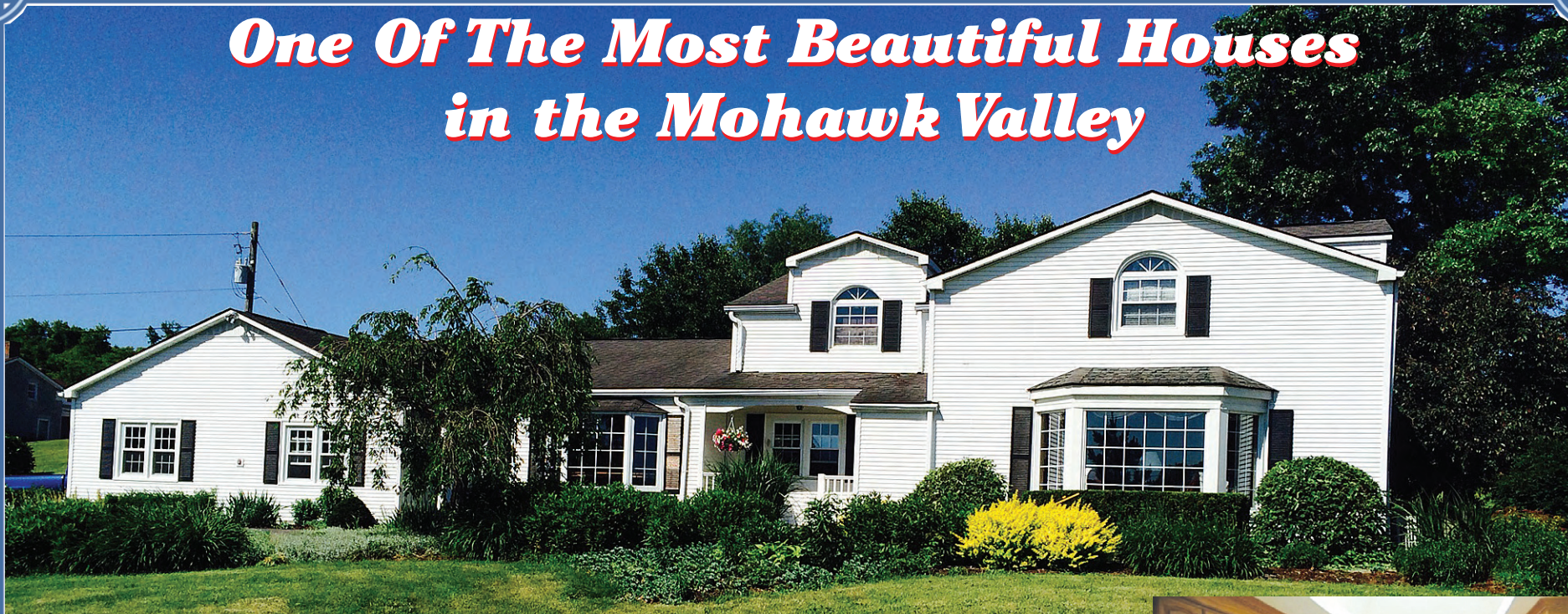
Germany in January 1871 most of them were under Prussian command, however, wear its own style of uniforms and insignias. The four German kingdoms that existed since the Napoleonic era - Bavaria, Prussia, Saxony and Württemberg - of course had its own armies until the end of WW I. The commander in chief in peacetime of each of these armies was the King. Prussia had the largest army of the four. After the unification and the formation of the German Empire, the Prussian army became the nucleus

of the Armies of the German Empire (Deutsches Reichsheer). After the declaration of war, the emperor became the commander-in-chief of all the armed forces. By 1914 the German army fielded 50 active divisions and 48 Reserve-Divisions - until 1918 251 divisions had been created.

Do you have a Whatchamacallit? Send a phot and short description to [bjaquays@leepub.com](mailto:bjaquays@leepub.com) or call Braden at 518-673-0145. Visit our Facebook page to see if you can figure out what the upcoming Whatchamacallit is.



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# This is a Hammer ~ Mitigating Water Leaks

by **Samantha Mazzotta**

*Q: I've read that ice dams and roof damage can lead to water leaks, but how can I find them? And what can I do if I find a leak? — Janice L., Portsmouth, NH.*

**A:** If you've noticed ice buildup along your eaves outside, it's a good idea to check inside in those same areas for water leaks. Take a flashlight and go to the part of the house that's as close as possible to the suspect area. Using the flashlight, check the wall and ceiling for light-brown water spots or streaks. If you see them, a leak likely has been occurring for a few days.

Run your hand along the wall and ceiling around the area, whether you see water spots or not (stand on a stepladder, not a chair or furniture). If the drywall or ceiling plaster feels damp, cold or a bit spongy in one spot, a leak may be forming. If you smell mildew or mold in an area, dampness is a problem and may be caused by a leak. Mark this and other potential problem areas with a pencil or blue painter's tape.

A leak needs to be addressed as soon as possible. Contact a roofing professional to schedule an inspection

and get a quote to remove the ice dams and repair the roof, as well as seal up leaks.

Before the contractor arrives, start minimizing the water damage indoors. Open up the wall or ceiling a bit to let water flow through freely. In the ceiling, punch a small hole in the center of the damp or water-stained area with a nail, and place a bucket underneath to catch drips.

Leaks behind a wall are more complicated: Often a section of drywall needs to be cut away, as close to the leak source as possible, and a bucket or pan placed beneath the drip. If you have no experience repairing or replacing drywall, enlist an experienced friend or call a contractor to quickly stop further damage until the roof can be repaired. You also may need to contact an electrician to make sure any wiring in a leak-affected area is OK.

**TIP:** To avoid dampness or leaks in the cellar, shovel snow a foot or two away from the foundation when possible.

Send your home tips and questions to [ask@thisisahammer.com](mailto:ask@thisisahammer.com).

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A leak needs to be addressed as soon as possible. Contact a roofing professional to schedule an inspection and get a quote to remove the ice dams and repair the roof, as well as seal up leaks.



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(204) **NEW PRICE!!** 3+BR Palatine home. Custom kitchen with GE Profile appliances. Original varnish woodwork, hardwood floors under the carpet. In ground pool, club house, covered patio. Finished oversized 2 car garage with overhead storage. **NOW \$134,900**



(120) **NEW PRICE!!** 2+BR St. Johnsville home has had many improvements: rewired and new electric service, new Barrier windows and siding. New hickory kitchen with stainless steel appliances. New sliding door out to new deck. Owner terms and possible rent to own. **\$65,000**



(168) Canajoharie 3+ BR home is comfy and cozy. Lots of big windows make it bright and airy. Many updates over the years: oak kitchen, bath, roof, boiler, hot water heater, gutters, electric service. The back yard goes back 210 feet and has a cute patio area. **\$98,500**

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**Owner Open to Offers**

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# Creating an island paradise: Tips for adding an island in your kitchen renovation

(BPT) — Custom cabinetry, granite countertops, reclaimed wood flooring and accents, and top-of-the-line, high-tech appliances — what more do you need to make your kitchen renovation perfect? How about adding an island? Designers and builders across the country are pointing to the addition of an island as the must-have upgrade for kitchen renovations this year.

Homeowners are embracing the island, and what's not to love about it? Adding an island can dramatically alter a kitchen's appearance, provide additional storage space and work area, and create a fresh focal point for family meals. What's more, common challenges that have historically held homeowners back from adding islands — such as the difficulty and high costs associated with adding plumbing drainage in the center of the room — are easier to solve than ever.



Manufacturers make a variety of pumping systems that can eliminate the need to cut concrete and reduce the cost of installing plumbing in a new island.

### Plumbing problem solved

While you could add an island without plumbing, having a sink in an island can improve the workflow in a kitchen and open up counter space elsewhere. Plumbing an island can be

problematic, however, if your home is built on a slab or a crawl space. The cost of cutting through concrete and adding piping can be prohibitive.

Above-floor plumbing can solve the problem. Manufacturers like Saniflo make a variety of pumping systems that can eliminate the need to cut concrete and reduce the cost of installing plumbing in a new island. For example, the SANISWIFT gray water pumping system is about the size of a small wastebasket (so it fits easily in an island cabinet space), and comes out of the box fully assembled, reducing installation time and costs.

“Cutting through concrete to install plumbing can easily account for 50 percent of a renovation budget,” says Chris Peterson of Saniflo. “Homeowners may decide to abandon the idea of an island altogether when they face that kind of cost. Above-floor plumbing allows them to add an island, hide a single drain pipe in a decorative column, and achieve the kitchen of their dreams at a fraction of the cost of traditional plumbing options.”

### Top island trends

Islands are increasingly becoming the focal point of kitchen renovations, serving both practical purposes and as design statements.

More homeowners are replacing traditional dining tables and breakfast nooks with spacious islands that feature seating. “Islands are replacing tables,” said Audrey Macdonald of Creative Interiors By Audrey in Mississauga, Ontario, in the National Kitchen & Bath Association's 2015 Kitchen & Bath Style Report.

In addition to seating, homeowners are incorporating restaurant-quality fittings into islands, adding charging stations for the family's personal digital de-



Designers and builders across the country are pointing to the addition of an island as the must-have upgrade for kitchen renovations this year.

vices. They're also choosing architectural and design touches such as decorative legs, and countertops and cabinetry that contrast with those around the perimeter of the kitchen.

Kitchen renovations continue to be among the most popular home improvement projects and can offer homeowners a high return on their investments. A major kitchen remodel costing about \$56,000 can recoup nearly 68 percent of its cost when you sell your home, while a minor remodel in the range of \$19,000 can yield a 79 percent ROI upon resale, according to Remodeling Magazine's Cost vs. Value Report.

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**207: FORT PLAIN:**  
Older home needs some TLC. No private parking. Updated windows and furnace. **Asking \$64,999**

**522: CANAJOHARIE:**  
Great house for the money!!! Nice residential street in the V/O Canajoharie. Two-story, 3 bedroom home. Carriage house kitchen, formal dining room, large living room w/fireplace. Large enclosed porch, back patio, detached garage and paved driveway. **Asking \$49,900**

**600: SPRAKERS:**  
**REDUCED!!!**  
Looking for a spot in the country that isn't completely isolated?  
This well cared for residence would make a great starter home and has been in the same family for 50 years. Updated furnace will help make winter bills affordable. The large yard has a garage with a former store above it, providing plenty of room to spread out. Centrally located with a short drive to Cooperstown or the Adirondacks. **Asking \$64,900**

**654: FORT PLAIN:**  
The current owners have spent a great deal of effort renovating this home. The updates include a new roof, furnace, water heater and refinishing of the antique wide plank pine floors. There is an added first floor laundry and bath that make this older home look more like a new one. Definitely worth a look!!!! **Asking \$49,900**

**820: CANAJOHARIE:**  
Beautiful, charming 2 bedroom Cape Cod home offering walk-in closets, full basement, large deck, 2 car garage w/an extra heated workshop. Beautiful hardwood floors and remodeled bath. Recently replaced furnace, roof, kitchen appliances, thermo windows and hot water heater. A double living room with an open stairway and bay window. The pantry could be made into a 1/2 bath if wanted. Relax on the open front porch or entertain on the large back deck. **COME SEE WHAT THIS HOME HAS TO OFFER!!! Asking \$87,500**

**976: SHARON SPRINGS:**  
Come take a look at this ranch home. Spacious open floor plan with a 100 ft wrap around deck and 22 acres make this a wonderful country property. Lots of room for the kids to play or entertain on this huge yard. Plenty of land to have animals and enjoy your own spot to hunt. **Asking \$110,000**

**982: CHERRY VALLEY:**  
A rare find nestled against the foothills of the Cherry Valley Mountains. Complete privacy is offered with this quaint country property. Set back 550' from the road with a gated driveway on 8 acres. Sit back on you 8 x 32 wrap-around porch and listen to the Class A trout stream that flows along the property. Three bedrooms, loft, 2 car garage, drilled artesian well, 200 amp service, 1,000 gallon concrete septic, wood shed, mud room, utility room knotty pine, etc. **COME TAKE A LOOK!!! Asking \$175,000**



# 2015 NYS Maple Weekends set March 21-22 and 28-29

## Welcome to Maple Weekend

Maple Weekend is one of the premier agri-tourism events in America. Almost 160 maple producers across New York State open their facilities to show people how maple syrup and related maple products are made from the tree to their table.

This fantastic, family-oriented event takes visitors back to their agricultural roots as they learn how a clear, water-like sap becomes a golden brown nectar.

Visitors tell us they enjoy the many different locations for the event because each producer has something different to teach and entertain the

guests. Whether it's horse and wagon rides into the woods, farm animal petting areas or pancake breakfasts, there is something for everyone at Maple Weekend.

The best part of every visit though is the chance to sample maple syrup and other products to see what all the

fuss is about.

The website at [www.nysmaple.com](http://www.nysmaple.com) has made it easy for you to Plan Your Maple Weekend. Use the site's various search options to find a participating producer, view a list of Pancake Breakfast or search by keyword.

**S o u r c e :**  
[www.nysmaple.com](http://www.nysmaple.com)



Several states have used the slogan "Buy Local" to encourage consumers to buy local products. The consumers are pushed to support their local farmers by buying locally grown vegetables and fruits. By buying food products grown locally, you can help stimulate the economy in your local area. Another benefit of buying locally grown foods, they are fresh and unpreserved.

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Sat., March 28 & Sun., March 29  
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- 2012 Chevy Cruze LT Std., Blue, 31,000 Miles
- 2012 Chevy Sonic 4 Dr., White, 42,000 Miles
- 2011 Chevy Malibu LT 38,000 Miles
- 2009 Ford Focus SE 30,000 Miles, Blue
- 2009 Pontiac Vibe 86,000 Miles, Blue
- 2008 Chevy Malibu LS 4 Dr., Blue
- 2008 Ford Mustang Conv. Lt. Burg., 30,000 Miles
- 2008 Cadillac DTS Silver, Loaded, 54,000 Miles
- 2006 Ford Taurus 77,000 Miles
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- 1997 Saturn SL1 4 Dr., Silver, 113,000 Miles

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- 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan Silver, 68,000 Miles
- 2003 Ford F150 4x4 Supercrew, 79,000 Miles



**Lions Easter Egg Hunt**

The Central Mohawk Valley Lions Club will be sponsoring their 40th Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children of our community. The Hunt will take place at Haslett Park in Fort Plain near the bandstand on Saturday, March 28, at 10 a.m. with April 4 being the rain date at the same time and location.

There will be two different hiding areas for the eggs based on age. This helps to give everyone a chance to find at least one egg. As always, there will be one dozen golden eggs hidden at each area. There will be a special reward to those finding them. In searching for eggs, the Lions ask the children to keep in mind the spirit of Lionism, which promotes cooperation and working together for the benefit of all involved.

The Lions Club is the largest service organization in the world, with their motto being "we serve." Any questions regarding the Hunt can be directed to chairperson, Sue Leavitt at 518-673-5482.

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