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Volume 7
Number 52

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Krutz Properties is #1 per Capital District MLS for property SOLD in Montgomery County!



214: 22 E. Liberty Street, **ST. JOHNSVILLE**: Nice starter home, needs TLC. Sits on a quiet side street, walking distance to downtown. Has a detached 2 stall garage, black top driveway and a utility shed. Also includes a vacant lot next door. **Asking \$65,900**



304: 15 3rd Ave, **CANAJOHARIE**: Great beginning could happen in this home!!! Two-story, three bedroom home with vinyl siding, updated roof and thermopane windows. Back covered deck and fenced yard make it perfect for kids and pets. This is an affordable home!!! **Asking \$68,900**



350: **NEW LISTING!!!** 15-17 Center Street, **FORT PLAIN**: Three family home located in downtown Fort Plain. Conveniently located to stores, parks and schools. 1 unit 3 bedroom home which would be ideal for a home based business! Property is well maintained and clean! Hot water and electric is separated. **Asking \$57,900**



405: 7 Spring Street, **FORT PLAIN**: This Colonial home has hardwood floors throughout. The heating system (hot water) and roof are less than a year old. Upstairs there is a new deck off the large master bedroom with a nice view. The second bedroom was once two bedrooms and could easily be converted back to two. There is a charming alcove at the top of the staircase. A large porch covers the entire side of the home. The yard is fenced in. There is a two-car detached garage. **Asking \$75,900**



450: 3-5 Lincoln Street, **FORT PLAIN**: Duplex home with separate utilities. Three bedrooms in each unit. Dining rooms in each unit. Left unit has living rooms, right unit has one living room. Full bath upstairs and 1/2 bath down in each unit. Back yard with deck. Both units rented. **Asking \$79,00**



508: 16 Spring Street, **FORT PLAIN**: Well cared for 2-family home with separate utilities and off street parking. Located on a nice residential street. Exterior is vinyl sided and updated windows. Large front porch, enclosed back porches and a garage. Washer and dryer hook-ups. This is a great investment or ideal for the owner occupant. **Asking \$62,000**



526: **REDUCED!!!** 93 Reed Street, **CANAJOHARIE**: A brick driveway leads to your Victorian home! Walk up the front steps to a beautiful large porch, step into the dining room with gleaming hardwood floors and wood burning fireplace. Formal living room w/high ceiling and a 2nd fireplace. Enjoy a 1st floor office space or relax in the sunroom. Walk out the back door to a deck and view the landscaped yard. **Asking \$159,900**



682: **REDUCED!!!** 172 Montgomery Street, **CANAJOHARIE**: Your dream home is waiting! This ranch home has been impeccably maintained by the current owners. Attention has been given to the gourmet kitchen with granite countertops and hardwood floors. The open floor plan leads to a three season sunroom that has been a hub for entertaining. This summer you'll relax on the patio and enjoy the swimming pool. Updates include a natural gas furnace, insulation and energy efficient windows making it comfortable and affordable. **Asking \$154,900**



830: **REDUCED!!!** 28 High Street, **FORT PLAIN**: This is a lovely home just waiting for a new owner! It has many new updates - roof, electric, completely renovated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, 2 renovated bathrooms and the list goes on! The charms of the home include recessed lighting with dimmer switches, built-in bookshelf, several newer windows with new curtains and custom shades, new entrance door, picture and bow windows and hardwood floors. Just move your things in and relax in the backyard around the fire pit! **Asking \$87,900**



837: **BACK ON MARKET!!!** 6480 State Highway 10, **CANAJOHARIE**: Colonial style home located just outside of the Village. A bi-level deck overlooks 21 acres w/a barn and pond. Ideal property for horses. A grand front entry, formal dining room and a finished basement w/kitchen (ideal for an in-law apartment). Three car detached garage w/overhead storage. Hot tub excluded. **Asking \$229,900**



953: **NEW LISTING!!!** 200 Coss Hollow Road, **COBLESKILL**: A Unique 97 acre property awaits its NEW OWNER! Are you looking for off-the-grid living? Maybe a summer home or hunting camp, this is the property. Property has a small A-Frame home, drilled well, complete privacy and stunning view of the valley. Plenty of trails for hiking and four wheelers. Lots of hardwood trees for firewood. Centrally located in Upstate New York. Only 20 mins. to I-88, half hour to Historic Cooperstown. **Asking \$139,90**



960: **NEW LISTING!!!** 262 Goldman Road, **SPRAKERS**: Private, Spacious off the grid Country Property! Come take a look, almost 8 acres, large pond, huge yard for the kids and pets to roam. Plenty of room for a couple horses, large barn/garage. Endless possibilities with this Country Gem!!! Low Electric Bills!!! Solar Power!!! **Asking \$125,000**

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Fun ways to stay cool

Summertime heat can affect energy levels and take their toll as heat waves overstay their welcome. Days upon days of rising mercury require enterprising individuals to find ways to stay cool.

Summer heat and humidity can be both daunting and dangerous. People who are unable to cool down and stay hydrated run the risk of heat stroke. Symptoms of heat stroke include a body temperature of 104°F or higher and feelings of confusion. The Mayo Clinic notes that heat stroke also may cause slurred speech, irritability and even seizures. Heat stroke is often identifiable by an absence of sweat, a rapid pulse and headache.

Staying cool should be a top priority when temperatures become extremely hot. Fortunately, there are fun ways to stay cool and beat the summer heat.

- Visit the beach. Head to the seaside for a day of enjoyment on the coast. Temperatures tend to be cooler at the water's edge, and there may be a nice breeze blowing in. In addition, you have water from the ocean, bay or lake to refresh you. Always use ample amounts of sunscreen and reapply often. Invest in a beach umbrella or pop-up tent that can shield you from the harsh rays of the sun. Bring a folding kiddie pool for young children and fill it up with ocean water close to your beach blanket so you can keep a close eye on youngsters as they do their best to stay cool.

- Get wet in creative ways. Water balloon fights can be fun, and there are many additional and clever ways

to get wet and cool off. If you have a trampoline, set a sprinkler or hose to mist and let the kids jump while getting wet. Jumping, in turn, will cause extra splashing. Give little kids a regular spray bottle they can use to spray plants, outdoor furniture, toys and even themselves. They'll have a good time and stay cool in the process.

- Transform your backyard into a waterpark. An old tarp coated with a little dish soap and water can make an impromptu water slide. Set up an obstacle course outdoors where kids must run through sprinklers, jump through hoops and dive into the pool. The more variety you can create, the more likely kids will forget the heat and have fun.

- Set up an ice-cream making adventure. Invest in an ice cream maker and spend a particularly hot day making your own flavors. When the ice cream is set, create a fixings bar with sprinkles and toppings.

- Take a trip to the movies. Movie theaters often set their air conditioning systems to arctic levels, which can be just

what the doctor ordered on a steamy day. Plan an excursion to the movies, taking advantage of matinee prices where available.

- Visit an indoor ice rink. What better way to stay cool than to spend an afternoon ice-skating? Channel winter temperatures during the heart of the summer heat. Remember to dress warmly as it will be cold indoors, and have a change of clothes ready when it's time to head back into the summer heat.



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BARBARA'S GARAGE SALE: Route 29, between Rockwood & Johnstown. Every Saturday & Sunday, 10am-4pm.

CANAJOHARIE, 26 Otsego St., Court Cath Esther #1264 Catholic Daughter's of the American is having a Garage Sale on Sat, August 5th from 9-4 with something for everyone! Furniture, dishes, tools and so much more.

REMODELING SALE - Friday, July 14 and Saturday, July 15 from 9:00. - 4:00. 61 Carlisle Road, Canajoharie. Kitchen cabinets, counter-top, sink, faucet, ceiling fans, oak mantle and much more. No early birds please.

GARAGE SALE: Large 4 family, July 10 - 22nd, 9 to 5, 78 N. Division, St. Johnsville. Too much to list. Come check us out.

FORT PLAIN, 14, 15, 16. 9- ?. 526 St. Hwy 163 Mult-family. Casio piano, twin bed, camp cot, cat carrier, toys, appliances, Adult/ Kids/ Babies clothing, more.

HUGE SALE: July 14-15-16. 313 Heiser Road, Fort Plain, 8 to ?. 518-993-2605. Guy stuff, fishing equipment, trimmers, mowers, boat cover, tires+ more. Early School shopping, small to large, Nike, American Eagle, NY+Co, Football cleats, Coach bag, Furniture, Small appliances, Air Cond. water cooler.

CANAJOHARIE, 26 Otsego St. 2 Family Garage Sale on Friday + Saturday, July 28+ 29 from 9-4. Electric dryer, Furniture, Ladies Callaway Golf Set, Tools, Clothes, Dishes, Something for everyone.

3FAMILY GARAGE SALE Friday July 21 and Saturday July 22, 9 am. Many new items, young mens clothes medium, large, and extra large. Designer named girls clothes large and extra large. Household items, towels, bedding, tons of stuff. 464 Seebers lane Canajoharie.



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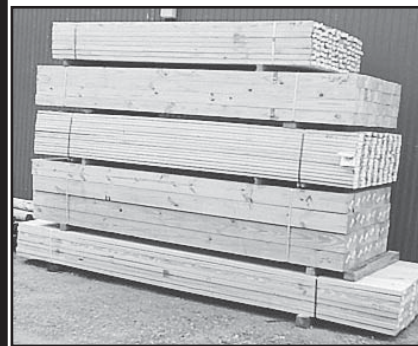
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Published weekly on Saturday by Lee Publications
 6113 St. Hwy. 5, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428

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Old Palatine Church to host celebration

PALATINE BRIDGE — The Old Palatine Church will celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation on Sunday, July 16, at 4 p.m. with a festival of hymns featuring music on the historic pipe organ and learning about the music's history, which dates back to 17th century Germany. Palatine settlers came to the Mohawk Valley in the 1700's seeking religious and political freedom and with them brought their own tradition of German hymns. The Palatine Church was built in 1770 by individual families, many of

whose names still ring with familiarity throughout the valley.

This anniversary event will be made up of hymns that were written by such famed hymn writers as Martin Luther, Paul Gerhardt and Joachim Neander. A Festival Choir will be made up of volunteer singers from many churches around the area and will be meeting one hour prior to the event for a special rehearsal. Guest pastors and lay leaders will take part by presenting the history of each hymn, which will be on the program. Special settings

will precede the congregational singing of each hymn, written by early and contemporary composers such as Bach, Pachelbel, Cherwein, Clarke and Hobby. Guest organist and program coordinator Roberta Rowland-Raybold from the First Lutheran Church, Albany, will include several of her own compositions in the program.

Hymn Festival "500" is open to the public. The Palatine Church stands proudly along Rt. 5 between Nelliston and St. Johnsville, a tribute to the early 18th century settlers of the area.

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Kinderhook Bank receives merger approval

The National Union Bank of Kinderhook ("Kinderhook Bank") announced recently that it has received approval from the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency ("OCC") to merge with Patriot Federal Bank ("Patriot"). As previously announced, Kinderhook Bank and Patriot agreed to merge in an all-stock transaction in which Patriot will merge with and into Kinderhook Bank.

The proposed merger of these two community banks is subject to approval by the shareholders of Patriot and customary closing conditions. The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2017.

The combined organization would operate as Kinderhook Bank with 11 offices across five counties and, based on financial results as of December 31, 2016, approximately \$601 million in total assets, \$446 million in total loans and \$521 million in total deposits.

Cranmore, FitzGerald & Meaney served as legal counsel to Kinderhook Bank and parent company Kinderhook Bank Corp. and filed the merger application with the OCC.

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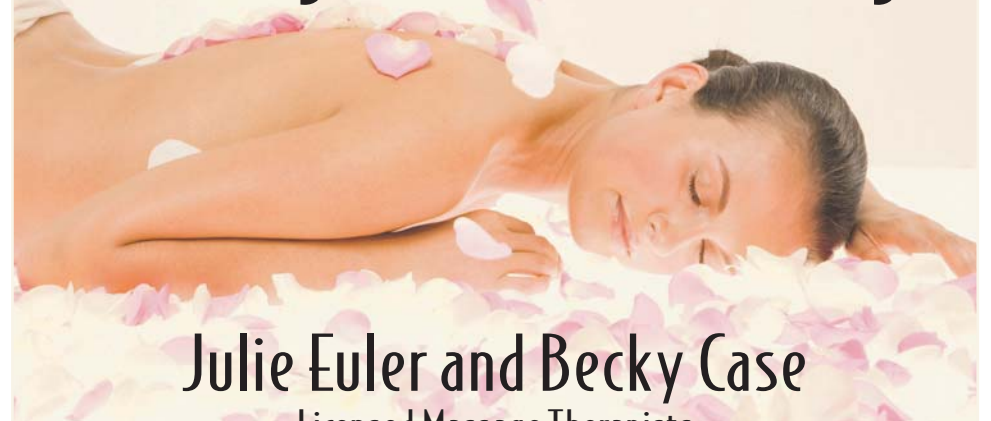
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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Finished

5 Western state

9 Netflix rental

12 Tragic

13 Mexican money

14 Debtor's letters

15 Doctor's determination

17 Beer cousin

18 Family member

19 Hides

21 Contribute to the mix

24 "Galloping dominoes"

25 Destroy

26 Proud birds

30 Alias (abbr.)

31 "No man is an island" writer

32 Cravat

33 Maryland city

35 Ill will

36 Wedding shower?

37 Breakfast side dish

38 Part of Hispaniola

40 Tolerate

42 Recede

43 Vibrating part of a microphone

48 Honest politician

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53

DOWN

1 Peculiar

2 Half of XIV

3 Historic period

4 Get back

5 "Once — a time ..."

6 Examination

7 "— was saying, ..."

8 Monastery

9 Science of logic

10 Chevrolet model

11 Union payment

16 Sister

20 "Foucault's Pendulum" author

21 Bedouin

22 Noble title

23 Bitter speeches

24 Carvey or Delany

26 Sit for a shot

27 Conclusion

28 Narc's measure

29 Spotted

31 Tie-breaking game, e.g.

34 Smack

35 Keg

37 "Humbug!"

38 Leader

39 French cleric

40 Luggage

41 Duel tool

44 Altar affirmative

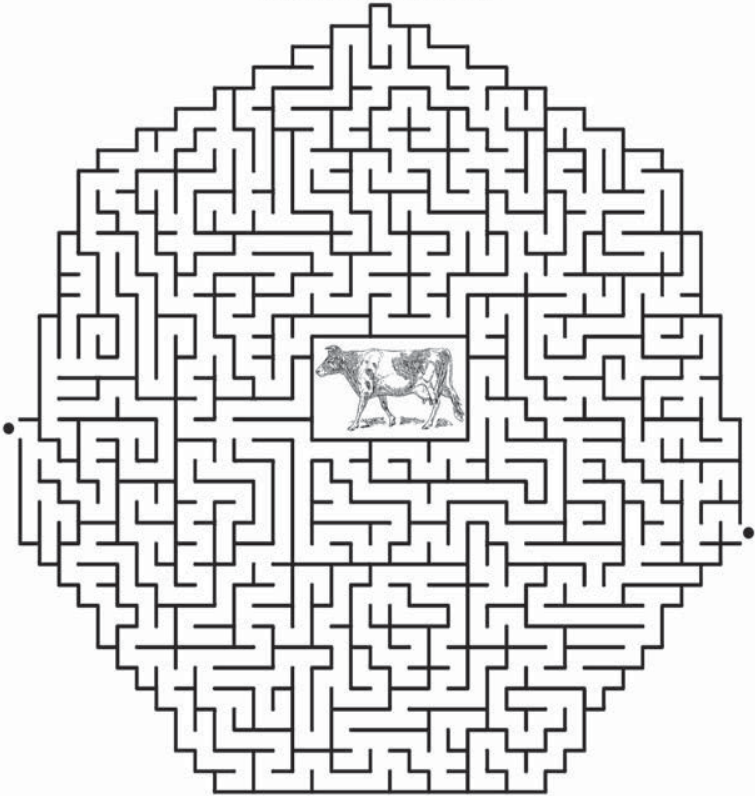
45 Rd.

46 Understand

47 Wife's address

Mega Maze

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

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

Blofeld Khan Le Chiffre Sanchez
Dr. No Klebb Mr. Big Scaramanga
Drax Koskov Oddjob Trevelyan
Goldfinger Largo Orlov

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

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OH COME ON! I LOST YOU AT "MUSEUMS" DIDN'T I?

LAFF-A-DAY



Americanisms

"The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary."
— coach Vince Lombardi

STICKELERS

Match the words on the left with their meanings on the right.

1. oneirism	a. shelter, protection
2. aslant	b. absent-minded
3. anathematize	c. mitigate, alleviate
4. aegis	d. oblique
5. allay	e. declare to be evil

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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by Helene Hovanec

RIDDLE SEARCH — SOB, SOB

Look up, down, and diagonally, both forward and backward to find every word on the list. Circle each one as you find it. When all the words are circled, take the UNUSED letters and write them on the blanks below. Go from left to right and top to bottom to find the answer to this riddle: What did the mother snake say to her crying child?

BOWL	V	Y	E	L	L	E	V	I	N	S
BREAK DOWN	L	I	A	W	E	E	P	I	H	O
CRY	L	L	A	U	Q	S	P	E	O	B
FRET	A	B	R	E	A	K	D	O	W	N
FUSS	S	E	F	R	E	T	E	R	L	A
GRIPE	H	Y	O	U	E	S	S	U	F	O
GROAN	O	R	N	A	U	N	T	N	A	R
GROUSE	U	Y	R	O	G	R	I	P	E	G
HOWL	T	S	R	E	P	M	I	H	W	O
LASH OUT	S	G	E	C	S	Q	U	A	W	K
RANT										
SHED TEARS										
SNIVEL										
SOB										
SQUALL										
SQUAWK										
WAIL										
WEEP										
WHIMPER										
WHINE										
YELL										

Riddle answer: _____

Ice cream truck history

On a sweltering day, few things bring relief as immediately as a favorite frozen treat. The United States leads the world in ice cream consumption, with an average of 26 liters per person consumed per year.

Ice cream has been around for quite some time, and it is believed ancient Greeks ate a crude form of the dessert as early as the 5th century B.C. While ice cream parlors, dessert shops and supermarket freezers are popular places to sample favorite flavors, ice cream also can be purchased from ice cream trucks.

The tinkling of the ice cream truck music box and the sight of that dessert haven on wheels is enough to send any child (and many adults) into sensory overload. Some of the early precursors to the modern day ice cream truck were ice and ice cream sandwich carts that gained popularity in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Confectioner and visionary Harry Burt was instrumental in developing the ice cream truck. Burt invented ice cream novelties that could be enjoyed on a stick, including the Good Humor bar. Burt wanted an easy

way to deliver the treat into the hands of hungry kids, so he commissioned refrigerator trucks and hired drivers who looked pristine and safe to deliver the treats to neighborhood children. To entice the youngsters outside, the drivers rang a bell so kids would investigate the noise. Eventually the bell and standard routes helped families know when to expect the ice cream man.

Early ice cream trucks may have sold prepackaged treats, but they eventually broadened their offerings. Some turned into mobile ice cream shops, offering soft-serve or hard ice cream in everything from sundaes to cones to shakes.

Many ice cream truck businesses are independently-owned seasonal businesses. The trucks are seen when the first warm days arrive, and many can still be seen patrolling neighborhood streets into late fall.



To your good health: Can Magnesium pills help control A-Fib?

by Keith Roach, M.D.
Dear Dr. Roach: Ten years ago, I had many episodes of rapid heartbeats, diagnosed as atrial fibrillation. My cardiologist put me on a medication, which I took for a couple of years, but the A fib came back. The doctor changed my medication to sotalol, but that didn't help either. I read that low magnesium could be a cause of atrial fibrillation, and I started taking calcium, magnesium and potassium, and have not had an episode of rapid heartbeat for four years. I went back to my doctor, who told me it was a crazy idea. I haven't seen him in four years. It seems a shame that we hear of so many treatments for A fib when it might be stopped with a simple supplement. — S.Z.

Answer: Well, it cer-

tainly isn't a crazy idea, but low magnesium isn't the only cause of atrial fibrillation, and supplementing magnesium and other electrolytes will not stop atrial fibrillation in most people. However, low blood magnesium levels are a recognized risk factor for developing atrial fibrillation, and giving magnesium during heart surgery reduces the risk of developing A fib afterward in some (but not all) studies, so there certainly is something to it. Also, oral magnesium can make other medications for A fib work more effectively. Since oral magnesium is safe and cheap, I think it is reasonable to try.

However, I am concerned because atrial fibrillation can go on in some people without their being aware of it, and the major risk of A fib is

blood clots. I would recommend that you continue to get evaluated periodically to make sure your heart rate is persistently normal. I also would try to find a physician who is willing to work with you on combining "alternative" treatments like magnesium with traditional therapy if needed.

Dr. Roach writes: I wrote a column awhile back about a man who kept falling, whose doctor wasn't able to find the cause after a thorough search. I had suggested checking his vitamin D level, but many readers wrote in to tell me about conditions that were missed in themselves or in a loved one. I thought that a few of these were worth sharing.

Many people wrote that a physical therapist (and

perhaps an occupational therapist as well) would be important, and I fully agree. I have found physical and occupational therapists to be among my most treasured but underappreciated colleagues, and almost always, they are able to improve people's function.

Other suggestions included looking for low oxygen levels, and checking whether the blood pressure drops too much upon standing. One person wrote in to note that walkers and wheelchairs can decrease activity and lead to loss of strength and balance. Another recommended looking for hidden infections, such as in the urine. These should have been checked for.

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Whatchamacallits



On January 11, 1898, Eugene Conkling of Cold Brook, NY was issued patent number 597,102 for his combination wire stretcher, wire cutter and staple puller hand tool. In his application, Mr. Conkling wrote "The purpose of my invention is to provide a combination Wire stretcher, Wire cutter, and sta-

ple-puller in the same tool, the tapering curved jaws being so constructed that their overlapping points engage each other on opposite faces of the points, and other details of construction hereinafter more fully described." Further, he claimed that his invention was for use "in facilitating the stretching and removal of fence wire."

Let's take a close look at "the business end", as they say in product reveals.

The close-up of the business end (L) shows just how Mr. Conkling arranged the necessary components to handle all tasks of fixing or installing barbed wire fencing. The pincher points (overlapping points engage each other on opposite faces of the points) were for removing the staples and the beveled cutting edges just below those would be for cutting the wire.

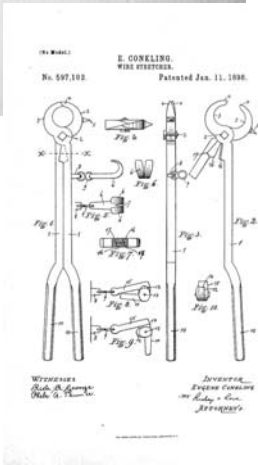
The stretching of the wire occurred with the handles open and the wire fed through the "gizmos" (technical term) on the handles below the pivot point. As best as I can gather, the wire was fed through and ratcheted outward to stretch and hold for the staple.

After reading through the application several times and matching it up with the diagram, there are a couple of minor discrepancies with our tool — al-



though the patent date and inventor are the same. Ours has hand grips (not tapered handles) and the hammer claw-like "wire engager" (Fig. 6) is different on our example as is the "link receiver" (Fig. 9).

Most likely some modifications occurred as they worked out the bugs.



Do you have your own Whatchamacallit?
Send a photo and short description to csuo@leepub.com or call Colleen at 518-673-0145

Country Preacher

by Pastor Dan West

In Psalm 119:105 the psalmist says God's Word "is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." What is the difference between a lamp and a light? They really are two different things.

The "lamp unto my feet" refers to a small illumination where your next step will be placed, like a

flashlight. The Word of God shows us how to conduct our lives every step of the way. These very small increments in our lives add up to a direction, so each step becomes important.

The "light unto my path", on the other hand, refers to bright, clear daylight that lights a large area. With this light

comes happiness, according to Strong's Concordance of the Greek.

Isn't it good to know that the Bible shows us through life like this, in detail as well as the big picture? When you accept it by faith as the infallible Word of God, you'll understand it, but not before.

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**WHAT WOULD YOUR
MOTHER SAY?!**

How do we get back to our roots? Can we get back? Food for thought...

Fire safety

by S.D. Shapiro

It's summertime and nothing's better than sitting around a campfire enjoying the company of friends and family and a s'more. Except that I hate camping. That's why I have one of those neat little chimneas on my patio. I also have a strong Wi-Fi signal, about 30 citronella candles, and a big screen TV.

On warm summer nights, I'll take some wood from the neatly stacked pile and with great care, following the tried and true Boy Scout method, start a small fire in the fire pit. Friends will stop by and we'll share stories while watching the stars shimmer in the night sky.

Recently, after a perfect June day complete with a sky so blue it hurt to look at, a group of friends were sitting around the fire when my neighbors decided that they were going to also have a fire. Keeping up with the Jones' or rather the Shapiros.

We watched through my fence as they moved a couple whole pallets, the kind that big box stores move stacks of products around on, into their D.I.Y. cinderblock fireplace. When the pallets were stacked in tee-pee shape, they added all the cardboard recycling they had accumulated and proceeded to douse the entire structure with gasoline from an old metal jerrycan.

And, like the scene from a bad B movie, my neighbor flicked a lit cigarette at the mess. The pile erupted in flames with an audible, "fwoosh." The black night sky disappeared as if it were daytime and a wave of heat crossed over the chain link fence.

We heard the neighbor's old fashioned folding lawn chairs clatter and fall over as they backed up from the fire. Flames jumped around and embers and sparks

flew in the air. A patch of grass near the pit burst into flames and that newborn fire spawned another little fire. The neighbors were dancing around the flames as if they were doing a ritual dance. The flames licked out and found some of the gasoline they had spilled and a trail of fire broke out racing towards the jerrycan.

The neighbor, watusi'd to his garden hose and sprayed the fire with water. Wrong move. Because gasoline is lighter than water, it simply floats on the water and the water won't have a chance to extinguish the fire. With a gasoline fire, much like a grease fire, you have to cut off the fire's oxygen source.

We heard one of the neighbors yell, "Call the fire department!"

That is a phrase that you never want to hear your neighbors whisper yet alone yell.

As the neighbors screamed and yelled I picked up my phone to dial 911. Before I could tap the numbers on the phone I heard another "fwoosh!"

Steve, who lives on the other side of the fire starters, a former firefighter with bad knees, wobbled over, silhouetted by the fire, and used an old-fashioned canister fire extinguisher to put out the blaze. As thick white smoke rose into the air, the neighbors cheered and applauded. The people in my back yard joined them.

When it comes down to fire, safety is a priority. You should always be aware of your surroundings, have a fire extinguisher ready, and never, ever, use gasoline to start a fire. Stop and think, "What would my mother say?" She would say, "If you play with fire, you'll wet the bed."

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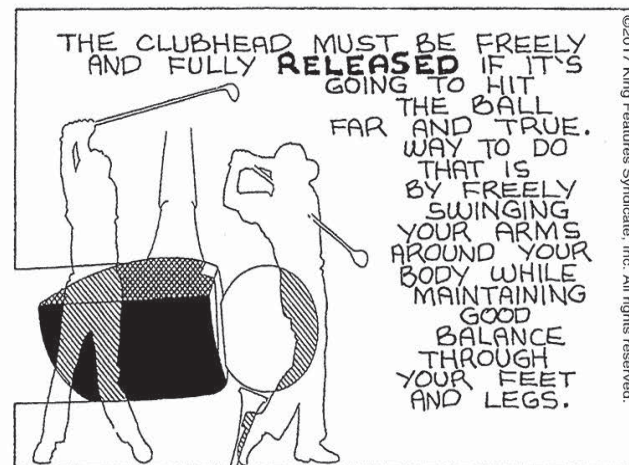
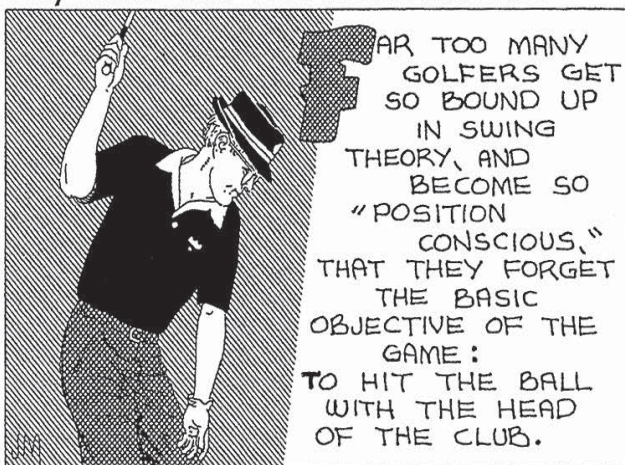
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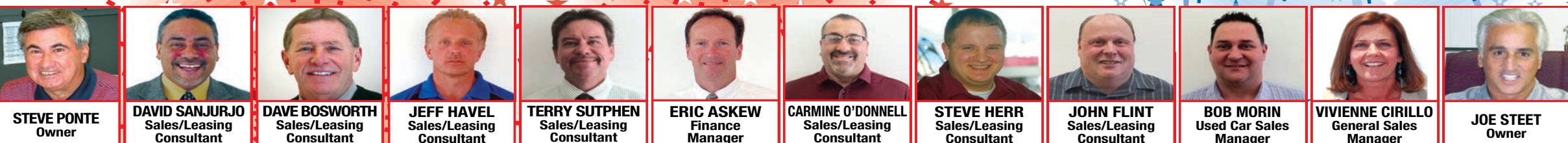
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P1618A	2009	Cadillac	CTS AWD	33k	\$13,990	\$193
P1601A	2011	Chrysler	300 LTD	56k	\$15,490	\$217
17606A	2012	Toyota	Prius Plug-In	52k	\$14,990	\$210
17156A	2013	Toyota	Camry SE	68k	\$12,970	\$179
P1616	2013	Chevy	Camaro	19k	\$19,995	\$291
17564A	2013	Toyota	Prius III	61k	\$14,990	\$209
P1555	2014	Toyota	Camry LE	24k	\$15,260	\$215
P1548	2014	Toyota	Camry SE	34k	\$14,860	\$208
17311A	2014	Toyota	Camry Hybrid SE	76k	\$13,360	\$184
17373B	2014	Mini	Cooper Countryman S AWD	20k	\$22,588	\$334
16799A	2014	Toyota	Avalon LTD	37k	\$25,995	\$388
P1605	2014	Volkswagen	Passat S	26k	\$13,990	\$195
17564B	2015	Toyota	Prius III	36k	\$17,990	\$257
15840	2015	Toyota	Prius V	4k	\$22,995	\$338

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P1630A	2012	Toyota	Tundra Dbl. Cab	78k	\$21,990	\$323
17447A	2013	Ford	F-150 Crew Cab XLT	37k	\$28,995	\$436
1775A	2013	Ram	2500 Diesel	43k	\$37,990	\$579
P1628	2014	Toyota	Tundra SR5 TRD	37k	\$32,490	\$492
P1632	2014	Dodge	Ram 1500 Crew Cab	32k	\$28,500	\$429
P1638	2014	Toyota	Tundra LTD Dbl. Cab	40k	\$33,990	\$499
P1647	2014	Ford	F150 S/C SXT	40k	\$29,990	\$450
P1645	2014	Toyota	Tundra SR5 4WD	53k	\$28,990	\$434
17434A	2015	Chevy	2500HD Dbl Cab 4WD	29k	\$35,995	\$547
17095A	2016	Toyota	Tacoma Dbl. Cab LTD	24k	\$36,995	\$564

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17509A	2011	Toyota	Highlander SE AWD	39k	\$21,990	\$323
17056A	2013	Toyota	4Runner SR5 4WD	52k	\$27,680	\$415
17434A	2013	Toyota	Highlander AWD	81k	\$17,970	\$259
P1633	2014	Toyota	Venza AWD	18k	\$25,995	\$384
17642B	2014	Ford	Edge SE AWD	53k	\$16,500	\$239
P1582	2014	Toyota	RAV4 XLE AWD	33k	\$18,960	\$273
17662A	2014	Jeep	Compass Sport AWD	42k	\$13,990	\$193
17646A	2016	Honda	CR-V EXL AWD	13k	\$26,995	\$399
R102	2016	Toyota	RAV4 XLE AWD	5k	\$25,995	\$386
P1646	2015	Toyota	Sienna SE	37k	\$28,990	\$434
P1610	2015	Toyota	Highlander LTD AWD	32k	\$34,970	\$530
P1565A	2015	Toyota	RAV4 XLE AWD	25k	\$21,360	\$311
17466B	2015	Nissan	Murano SL AWD	17k	\$32,990	\$498

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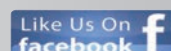
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Three tips to ensure you're ready to hit the road safely

(BPT) — Temps are higher, the days are longer and road trips are planned.

When it comes to getting our cars ready for the road, we habitually adjust our rear-view mirror and double-check fuel levels before putting the car in gear. We sometimes change our engine oil and refill the windshield fluid. Yet we often overlook one of the most important safety features on our ve-

hicles — the tires.

With a little preparation and the right tire maintenance know-how, major issues on the road can be largely avoided. Follow these simple tips to ensure your rubber is ready to meet the road:

1. Choose the right tires for the season.

There are many different tire categories, from ultra-high performance (UHP) tires designed to

ensure performance vehicles handle flawlessly at high speeds to highway tires built to provide a smooth, comfortable ride and predictable handling.

It's important to work with a professional tire technician to decide which tires are best suited for your vehicle and style of driving.

"Today's tires are available in thousands of fitments providing varying

performance, comfort and safety features, making it absolutely necessary to discuss your wants and needs with a knowledgeable tire sales person to ensure you're getting the desired results," says Matti Morri, Nokian Tyres technical customer service manager.

2. Give your tires a once-over for correct air pressure.

One of the easiest ways to extend the life of your tires is to regularly check them for correct air pressure.

Low and uneven inflation will cause a number of problems for your vehicle, including poor han-

dling and reduced comfort, increased fuel consumption and an overall unsafe driving experience. Tire pressure should be checked once a month and always before longer trips. You should always check tire pressure before hitting the road because driving causes tires to heat up and air pressure to increase. Consult the vehicle's manual for proper inflation pressures.

3. Check your tread depth

Tires with inadequate tread are susceptible to poor handling, hydroplaning, reduced gas

mileage and more. In fact, tires are considered legally worn out when they reach 2/32 of an inch.

"To ensure your tires will perform safely, it's crucial to monitor for worn treads," Morri says.

Pro tip: A penny and a match are both easy tools to check your tread depth. Stick a penny, facing you, upside down in the tread on multiple spots around the tire. If Lincoln's head is completely visible, your tread is too worn and you should replace your tires. Similarly, if you stick the head of a match in your tread and the tip is not completely hidden, your tread is too worn. These are both signs of ultimate worn tread, and you may want to consider new tires before reaching this point.

Before you hit the open road, remember that minor issues can become major roadblocks in the blink of an eye — or turn of the wheel. Take a little extra time to follow these simple tire tips and the only thing you'll have to worry about is the wind messing up your hair.

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Three tips when buying a used car

(BPT) — If you're in the market for a used vehicle, the car-buying process can be both an exciting and daunting experience. Whether you are a first-time buyer or looking for a different model, a car is one of the largest purchases you will ever make. It's not only important to make sure you have the right car for your lifestyle, but one that makes the most sense for your personal financial situation.

If you are one of the millions of Americans looking to buy, here are some tips to consider.

Get pre-approved

Similar to buying a house, it's important to know what you can afford before you start hunting for your dream car. If you will be financing a vehicle, getting pre-approved for a car loan may save you a lot of heartburn during your car search.

Interest rates continue to be at historic lows, but it's important to check in on what rates you may qualify for and how it will affect the price of what

you can afford.

"It's easy to get caught up in the excitement of looking for a new car and forget about the affordability piece," says Renee Horne, vice president of Consumer Lending at USAA. "Before you even begin your search, give your lender a call to see what you can actually qualify for and what will fit in your budget."

A good tip to keep in mind is to not let your car payment exceed more than 15 percent of your monthly net income. While you don't have to stick to it, this rule will help give you a rough estimate of what you may be spending each month.

Know what you can afford

Knowing what you can afford reaches beyond your car loan payment. Although used cars are typically less expensive, they may have more maintenance and ownership costs.

"It's important to look at the total cost of ownership," says Heather Polard, vice president of Auto Experience at USAA.

"Everyday expenses such as gas, insurance, taxes, maintenance and future repairs are all associated with owning a vehicle."

Knowing a rough estimate of these expenses will help you stay on budget in the long run. Simple online loan calculators, like the one at USAA, can help give you an idea of how much you can afford.

Narrow your choices

With countless choices available, finding the right car for you can be a challenge. Your budget should help narrow some of your choices, but consider your lifestyle as well.

Do you have young children or plan to start a family soon? Then you might want to consider the highest IIHS safety ratings. Do you frequently travel for work? In that case, improved gas

mileage and reduced emissions are important factors. Remember, all those extra upgrades come with a higher insurance price tag and are depreciating assets once you drive off the lot.

Although you may be more inclined to go after a new car with the latest cutting-edge technology, a pre-owned vehicle may be the better alternative for your lifestyle and

budget. Better still, used car prices are the lowest they have been in years. Even if you opt for a slightly older version of the model you're interested in, many used models still offer similar advanced features while saving you thousands of dollars in the end.

Need help finding the right car for you? The USAA Car Buying Service can help



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Six ways to ensure pet birds are happy and healthy

Households across the country include companion birds. Their sweet music and vividly colored plumage make birds beloved pets.

Well-socialized birds that are accustomed to human interaction can make for wonderful pets. However, unlike dogs and cats, some birds may not prefer or receive the same amount of daily attention from their owners as other pets.

Birds can suffer from depression and anxiety if their living conditions are not optimal. Birds can become irritable thanks to illness, boredom, cage position, and many other factors. Unhappy birds may engage in self-destructive behaviors, such as plucking out their feathers. Bird owners concerned that their birds may be unhappy or unhealthy should take the bird to the veterinarian for an examination, taking steps to improve the birds' quality of life if necessary.

The organization Born Free USA does not advocate for keeping birds in captivity, but does agree that if birds are cage-kept, their conditions should be made as ideal as possible. Here are some suggestions to keep birds healthy and happy, courtesy of Born Free USA and other animal welfare and healthcare resources.

1. Feed birds nutritious diets. BeautyofBirds.com states that seed-only diets are the most common cause of premature death in companion birds. Birds need more variety to prevent nutrient deficiencies. Fruits, vegetables (including leafy greens) and sprouted seeds should account for between 20 and 25 percent of a bird's diet.

2. Offer the largest enclosure possible. While it

may not be possible to devote an entire room to a companion bird, shop for the largest cage available. This will give the bird more room to exercise and spread its wings.

3. Keep sunlight flowing. Birds need access to unfiltered sunlight and/or full-spectrum lighting so they can synthesize vitamin D. Window glass blocks necessary UV rays. On nice days, take birds outside to enjoy time outdoors with fresh air and plenty of sunlight.

4. Provide enrichment activities. Birds can become bored, so stave off boredom with activities that enable them to use their brains. Birds might enjoy foraging for treats or playing treasure hunt games. Offer a variety of toys to keep them stimulated.

5. Provide time to spend outside of the cage. Birds may benefit from a change of scenery to improve their moods. Let the bird out of its cage so it can safely explore its surroundings. Make sure there are no breakable items, close drapes so the bird will not fly into window glass, and be certain ceiling fans are turned off.

6. Provide natural perches. Offer living branches that will be more comfortable on birds' feet than other perches. Birds need a variety of textures and sizes in their perches to keep them healthy.

Birds' happiness as companion animals is strongest when their needs are met. Employing various strategies that promote their health and provide mental stimulation can improve birds' quality of life.

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Calendar of Events

**ORIGINAL VALLEY
PENNYSAVER**

NOTE: Calendar entries must arrive at the Original Valley Pennysaver office 10 Days Prior to the publication date. Send events to Lee Publications c/o The Original Valley Pennysaver, 6113 State Highway 5, P.O. Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428 or email: dshariff@leepub.com . Any entries arriving past this deadline will be included with the next available publication issue date as long as they are not outdated.

JUL

Arkell Center Programs for ALL AREA Seniors during July are as follows:
Monday-Friday: 11:45 am. The OFA Meals of Montgomery Program serves hot meals, suggested \$3 donation for 60 and older. Call 673-2000 for reservations.
Tuesdays: 9-10 am. A Core Strength & Stability Class in the basement. \$5 donation. Instructor Sharon Charles. For more information call 673-4408.
Tuesdays: 10-11 am. Tai Chi Workshop. Sponsored by Mont. County OFFA. Earl O'Bryon Instructor.
Tuesdays: 11:10 am-12:10 pm. Intermediate Tai Chi Workshop. Sponsored by Mont. County OFFA. Earl

O'Bryon Instructor.

Mon., Wed. & Fri: 10-10:30 am. Senior Exercise Program in the basement. Open to all area Seniors. Coffee after.
Wednesdays: 2-2:25 pm. Chair Yoga with instructor Patty Pietrowicz. Free through the summer in the Gallery.
Wednesdays: 2:30-3:30 pm. Gentle Yoga with instructor Patty Pietrowicz in the basement. Open to all Area Seniors. \$5 donation.
Fridays: 9-10 am. Vinyasa Flow Yoga with Bonnie Fiore in the Gallery. \$10 fee.

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEXT DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS AUG. 15.
Call 673-4408 for information on any programs.
Jul. 19 & 26: 12:30-4 pm. Senior Citizens Pinochle Card Party, donation \$2, prizes & refreshments. If you would like to sub call Terry at 673-5635.
Jul. 28: 11:45 am. OFA Meals of Montgomery Luncheon. Rsvp no later than Jul. 24. Directly following, 12:30 pm Gary Van Slyke will present "BLUES," bring along something blue and a friend for a fun afternoon!
COMING SEP. 19: LAKE GEORGE STEAMBOAT CRUISE.
Board Saint Luncheon Cruise at 10:30 am for 11

am sail, 2 pm return to dock. Leave Dutchtown Plaza 9 am return 5pm. \$36-Members & \$41 non-members. Reserve 673-5588 no later than Aug. 14.

MEETINGS
Jul. 20 & 27: 10:15-11am. The Diet Club meets in the Gallery at Arkell Ctr. The goal is to be accountable while losing or maintaining your weight. Call 673-2112.
• No meeting in July & August: Canajoharie/Pal Br. Chamber of Commerce.
• No meeting in July: Canajoharie Senior Citizens Meeting. Next meeting Aug. 4.
Jul. 25: 10-11 am. Alzheimers Caregiver Support Group. Please join us.

JUL 15

Free Clothing Give-Away
Valley Alliance Church, State Highway 5, Nelliston. 9-11 am. Doors open at 8:45 am. Refreshments provided.

JUL 16

Old Palatine Church to Host Celebration
The Old Palatine Church will celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation on Sunday, July 16 at 4 pm with a festival of hymns featuring music on the historic pipe organ and learning about the music's history, which dates back to 17th century

ry Germany. Hymn Festival "500" is open to the public. The Palatine Church stands proudly along Rt. 5 between Nelliston and St. Johnsville, a tribute to the early 18th century settlers of the area.

JUL 23-27

Richfield Springs Bible Church Vacation Bible School
5:30-8 pm. All welcome: Kindergarten thru 6th grade. At the Church and Fellowship Hall, 17 Church St., Richfield Springs. Call 315-822-6986 for more information.

JUL 28

Stone Soup Music Concert
Fort Klock. 7 pm. For more information call 518-568-7779, email FortKlock@gmail.com or visit www.fortklockrestoration.org .

JUL 31

2nd Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser for The Foundation for Mohawk Valley Libraries
Canajoharie Golf & CC. 9 am Shotgun Start. Members \$67, non members \$80. For more information or to register call 518-355-2010 ext. 223.

AUG 1 - 3

Young Pioneer Program
Fort Klock. Children age 9-13 are invited to experi-

ence frontier life and colonial lifestyles while having fun learning about life was like for children of the of that period. For more information call 518-568-7779, email FortKlock@gmail.com or visit www.fortklockrestoration.org .

AUG 12

The Village of Ames Museum
611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. Open for tours 9 am-3 pm. Registering vendors and 5K runners for Sept. 16 festival. Vendor space is free. 518-673-5820. For more information visit www.amesmuseum.weebly.com .

SEP 9 - 10

Fort Klock Craft Fair
Fort Klock. Sat. 9 am-4 pm, Sun. 9 am-3 pm. For more information contact email FortKlock@gmail.com or visit www.fortklockrestoration.org . Interested vendors call Joan Kark-Wren at 518-649-2531.

SEP 16

The Village of Ames Museum Summers End Celebration
611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. 9 am-3 pm. 5K race, vendors, historic displays, food, games. 5K race begins at 9 am. For more informa-

tion visit www.amesmuseum.weebly.com .

OCT 14

The Village of Ames Museum
611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. Open for tours 9 am-3 pm. Enjoy a museum scavenger hunt. One for adults and one for children. For more information visit www.amesmuseum.weebly.com .

NOV 4

The Village of Ames Museum
611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. Open for tours 9 am-3 pm. The museum will close for the season at 3 pm. For more information visit www.amesmuseum.weebly.com .

DEC 3

St. Nicholas Day
Fort Klock. Noon-3:30 pm. For more information call 518-568-7779, email FortKlock@gmail.com or visit www.fortklockrestoration.org .

DEC 6

The Village of Ames Museum
611 Latimer Hill Road, Ames. Village of Ames tree lighting celebration in front of the museum 6:30 pm. Refreshments to follow at the fire station.

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Landscape plant pests

most susceptible, with other birches much less so. It is much easier to control adults in spring as the new leaves emerge, before adult miners lay eggs. The larvae that hatch, being inside the leaves, are much harder to control. If this pest is severe for several years, trees can be weakened and attacked by the bronze birch borer.

The bronze birch borer is the larva of a beetle which tunnels through the bark, eventually resulting in tree death. This happens from the borer eating and cutting off the vascular tissue — that part of the tree that con-

ducts water and nutrients below the bark surface. Once you see raised areas in the bark, control may be too late. Most commonly injured are paper and white birches, with other species more resistant. Preventing injury from birch leaf miner helps, as does keeping trees healthy, and not pruning trees during summer when adult beetles are flying about. Larvae, once inside trees, are difficult to control.

Eastern tent caterpillars are recognized by many from their white webbed "tents" in branch crotches, teaming with black caterpillars. These insects hatch from eggs in early spring as buds open on apples, crabapples, cherries, and their relatives. They emerge from the nests on warm days to feed on leaves, at which time they can be

controlled with sprays such as insecticidal soap. Nests can be pruned out in early summer and destroyed, as can the shiny black egg masses (about one inch long) found on twigs in winter.

Fall webworms are similar in that they make web nests, but these are on branch tips and appear in mid- to late-summer. There often are several nests per plant, compared to one for tent caterpillars. And the larvae of fall webworm feed from within their silky nest, expanding the nest down the plant as they feed. Nests can be pruned out as for tent caterpillars. Don't use fire to destroy these or tent caterpillar nests, as the fire may damage the host plants. Many different plants host this pest, including birch, lilac, crabapple, and cherry. Since feeding is late in the season, it is more an aesthetic problem than harm to plants.

Viburnums are great landscape shrubs but unfortunately, the viburnum leaf beetle is particularly fond of some species. Both larvae and adults can quickly defoliate plants, only leaf skeletons remaining. Eggs hatch in late spring when the young larvae begin feeding, followed by adults in mid-summer. If you monitor plants almost daily, as a friend of mine does, you can pick off insects as they appear and you see them. If you use pesticides, use least toxic ones such as insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, or neem products so that you don't harm beneficial insects, which feed on adult beetles. You can learn more about this pest, and which species are most resistant to it, from Cornell University (www.hort.cornell.edu/vl/b/).

Other potentially serious pests to watch for on landscape plants include the Japanese beetle, black vine weevil, and white pine weevil. More on these and others, and their controls, can be found from the University of Massachusetts (www.ag.umass.edu/landscape/fact-sheets).

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— King Crossword —

Answers
 Solution time: 21 mins.



Stickelers Answer

1-b, 2-d, 3-e, 4-a, 5-c

Mega Maze
 Solution

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— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

Puzzles4Kids

Answer

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

Riddle Answer:
 Viper your nose.

July 14 is Shark Awareness Day!

Celebrating America

by Elizabeth A. Tomlin

Bernard Wrobel of Old Rt. 80 Fort Plain had finally made the decision to say "Happy Birthday America" and display his patriotic spirit.

"For the last couple of years I said I ought to do it," Wrobel, a life-long resident of the Fort Plain community says. "This year I decided to go ahead and do it."

Doing "it" in this case consisted of designing a patriotic theme for his tall fence facing Highway 80, overlooking one of his flower gardens, which was already set off by red

and white flowers complementing the patriotic theme.

"I bought the flag from Kinney's in St. Johnsville," Wrobel said. "But, it was harder to find the buntings."

Wrobel and his best friend, Claudine Haig along with her Yorkshire Terrier, Buffy, set out to find the buntings, but, since they could not find them locally and had no internet experience or connections, they ended up having to purchase them through a mail order catalog.

It took a little securing to attach the flag and buntings and fixtures to the fence, and working on the steep slope was a little dangerous for the couple, but between the two

of them they figured it out and working together, they successfully completed the task.

"This is for the community," said Haig. "It's a shame people are not as patriotic

as they used to be."

"I think people had better wake up," Wrobel advises. "The United States is not in the best of shape and people need to start showing their colors."



Bernard Wrobel shows his decorated fence and flower garden, designed with celebrating America in mind.



Bernard Wrobel and Claudine Haig (and Buffy) worked together decorating this fence on Rt. 80 in Fort Plain to celebrate America's birthday.

Photos by Elizabeth A. Tomlin

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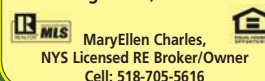


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Shade-tolerant plants help to complete landscapes

Plants need sunlight to thrive and grow, but some need less sunlight than others. People who find their landscapes are less supportive to sun-loving plants can choose from a variety of shade-tolerant plants, shrubs

and trees.

Shade tolerance refers to a plant's ability to withstand low levels of light. Certain plants have adapted this feature to survive in the wild. Plants that grow at the base of forest floors, for example,

will get less sunlight than others outside of the tree canopy. Such adaptations enable a wide variety of foliage to grow even though they are not exposed to much sunlight.

While sun-loving plants often have broad leaves

and expend significant energy to capture sunlight for photosynthesis, shade-tolerant plants expend less energy and tend to be more efficient consumers of soil nutrients and sunlight.

Penn State Extension's

Plant and Pests division says the amount of shade a plant is growing under will directly affect the density of the foliage and the plant's flowering and fruiting characteristics. Blending shade-tolerant plants into the landscape can be an effective use of space. Before choosing plants for an existing landscape, it's important to assess the level of shade or sun the plants will receive.

• **Heavy shade:** Heavy shade is when no direct sunlight reaches a plant. This occurs at the base of northern-facing walls or beneath thick tree canopies.

• **Full sun:** Areas that receive full sun enjoy direct sunlight between six and eight hours per day.

• **Moderate shade:** These sites have reflected sunlight that may come

perennial in the poppy family that produces mounded foliage and arching vine-like stems of heart-shaped flowers in the spring.

• **Amethyst flower:** Browallia hybrids offer star-shaped blooms of blue and violet. These plants will billow out of hanging baskets or containers, and they prefer warm shade or filtered sunlight.

• **Coleus:** The coleus, *Solenostemon scutellarioides*, is another perennial that can have a variety of different leaf colors and striations.

• **Witch hazels:** These are a genus in the family Hamamelidaceae, which has four different species in North America. This shrub or small tree features arching branches with dense, multi-stemmed clumps. Witch



Shade-tolerant plants, such as coleus, can add color and appeal to shady areas of a landscape.

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off of water features.

• **Light shade:** Plants in these areas will get partially filtered or dappled sunlight.

Once homeowners understand which type of shade they are dealing with, they can then visit plant nurseries and select their plants. Most greenery comes with care instructions that include recommendations regarding the amount of shade/sunlight the plant will need to do well. If further assistance is needed, a knowledgeable employee can make suggestions based on landscape needs.

Those who are looking for some preliminary guidance when it comes to selecting shade-tolerant shrubs, plants or trees can consult the following list.

• **Bleeding heart:** Bleeding heart, or *Dicentra spectabilis*, is typically found in woodlands. It's a

hazel produces flowers in the late autumn when most other plants are sparse.

• **Bayberry:** *Myrica pensylvanica* can grow in partial shade as a hedge or natural property divider. The leaves of this shrub are aromatic when crushed. The shrub will produce tiny, gray/white fruits in late summer.

• **English Ivy:** Also known as *Hedera helix*, this trailing plant is widely cultivated as an ornamental plant. It will spread easily and can become invasive.

Those searching for shade-tolerant trees can choose among Sugar maple, Black alder, Flowering dogwood, and White spruce, among others.

Shade-tolerant plants can make welcome additions to the landscape, offering greenery and color in the darker areas of a property.

Fort Plain's 2017, 4th on the 3rd tops all

by Elizabeth A. Tomlin

"It was one great party, the likes of which I don't think Fort Plain will ever see again," remarked Jim Katovitch. Fort Plain's 2017 4th on the 3rd General Chairman. "The crowd, this year, was estimated at over 5,000 — the largest in the history of the event!"

Folks at the event were all having a great time.

Cassie Heft of Canajoharie, waited while her daughter, 2-year-old Savannah rode a Dream Ponies horse. This is the 2nd year she has attended. "We love it!" Heft remarked. "It's a great family event!"

Other young parents had the same thought.

Cassie Brackett of Fort Plain says she brings her children every year. "It gets bigger every year," Brackett said. "There's more things every year. My kids definitely enjoy it. There's a lot to keep them busy."

Kristi Downes, also of Fort Plain, commented on the new activities each year. "They have different things every year and the good variety keeps people interested."

Katovitch says that is exactly the way it is planned, so each year new activities draw more interest.

"I try to keep as much new and as exciting as possible," Katovitch said. "I want people to say, I've got to go up to the park and see what they've got this year!"

One of the new attractions this year was the 'Hollywood Style Stunt Jump,' where more than 400 brave daredevils jumped from about three stories into a giant, zero-shock, inflatable air bag.

The Sherman Family Lumberjack show, another new event, demonstrated their skills in five shows, with nearly 100 people at each show. Lashes Paintball shooting competition was another big draw and crowd pleaser.

"We had a great time!" commented Burt Lashes.

Lashes reported 160 players, with about 130 kids under 16. Top three winners in the competitions were Ann Milder, Kierston Horender and Tom Armitstead.

The annual fishing derby winners sponsored by

Tanya Towne and The Sportsman's Den, included: Madden Lathers, Gadence Jones, Ryley David, Kayleigh Sanders, Trace Keeba, Jayveon

Hilts, Carson Kellogg, Tyson Nichols, Bradley Rumrill, Braydyn Myers and Jeremiah Dodson.

A variety of continuous music provided by live

bands and the aroma from food vendors along with the many activities provided a circus atmos-

FORT 30



Rhyonn Ford, Kendall Kennedy and Eliza Cechnicki represented Fort Plain Central School's Class of 2018 at their fund-raising booth.

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FORT from 29

phere and Katovitch says the phrase most often used by organizers fit right in. "Our favorite saying was, "let's get this circus on the road!"

Katovitch was awarded

an honorary plaque and Proclamation for his many years of chairing the event. Katovitch said there would have been no event without the many hands that made the load light. "This event would not occur if it wasn't for

the extreme generosity, not only from our community of Fort Plain, but also with help from people and businesses from Canajoharie and St. Johnsville.

FORT 31

Fort Plain Mayor Tom Quackenbush, Congressman Paul Tonko (D- NY Dist 20), event General Chairman Jim Katovitch, Congressman John Faso (R-NY Dist 19), Canajoharie Town Supervisor Pete Vroman and Tim Yager pose after presenting a plaque of appreciation to Katovitch.

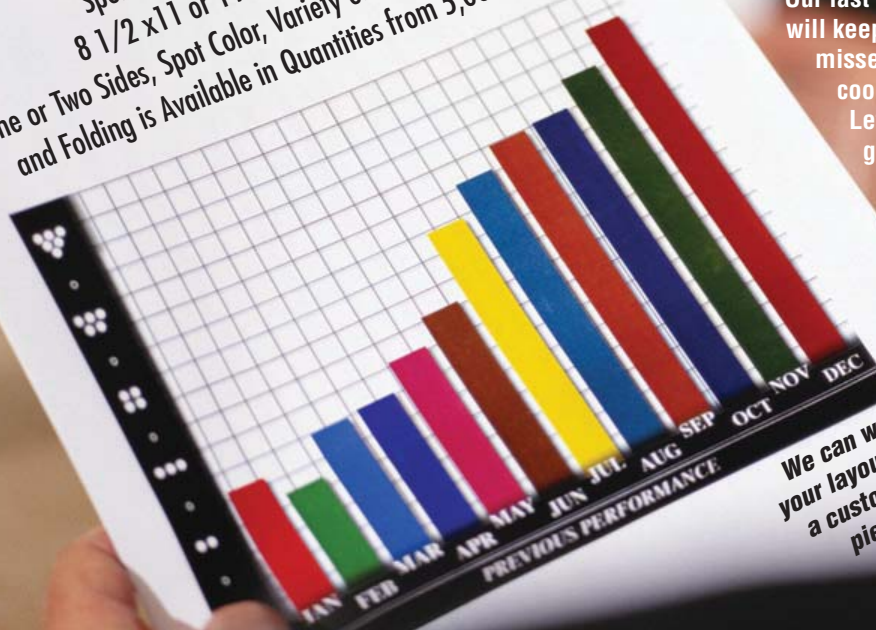
Photos by Elizabeth A. Tomlin



Jim Crouse and son Zayden of Gloversville, dressed in patriotic garb for "America's birthday."

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FORT from 30

"I want to personally thank Todd Smith, who has been the logistics and field set up co-coordina-



Melvin the Magnificent's Magic Show was packed with laughing children throughout the evening.

Paws Corner: Monitor, speak, play with pet remotely

by Sam Mazzotta

Dear Paw's Corner: I work most of the week from an office downtown, and only get one day to work at home and be around my dog. She does have a dog walker who takes her out near lunchtime when I'm not there, but I worry about her being alone at home. Is there any way I can monitor her while I'm out, or even talk to her? — Brian in Alpharetta, GA

Dear Brian: There's quite a bit of technology coming onto the market that is aimed at helping you spend more time with your pet — even when you're not home.

If you already have a home security system with cameras installed that you can monitor remotely, aim a camera at your dog's favorite hang-out spot to monitor what she's doing all day. With new products like Pet Cube, you can not only monitor her during the day, but speak to her and even deliver treats through an app on your phone. Another product, PlayDate, allows you to remotely control a ball through a mobile app and your home's Wi-Fi system.

Activity trackers for pets are another new product on the market.

Similar to a Fitbit or other smart watches, sensors worn on your dog's collar can track her movements and activity levels, so you can find out whether she's getting enough exercise during the day.

While none of these are a good substitute for quality face time with your dog, they can bring you some peace of mind when you're away at work.

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tor for 15 years," Katoitch said. "You may have heard rumors around town, but it is now official that Todd and I will be retiring from our positions with the 4th on the 3rd celebration. We are proud of our accomplishment to bring unique, quality, free entertainment to the people in our community, but it is now time for new people with new ideas to hop in the driver's seat to take the celebration into a new frontier. We thank everyone for the help and support they have given us over the years."

A gigantic fireworks display ended the evening.



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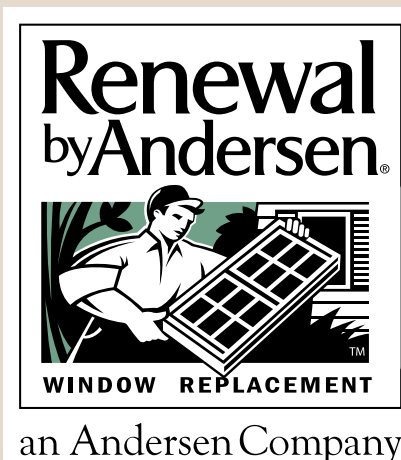


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