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Four popular grilling techniques

Just like some people insist that charcoal grills trump gas grills or vice versa, some backyard barbecue devotees swear by particular grilling techniques. Such lighthearted debates may never end, and novice grillmasters who want to join the fray can study up on the various grilling techniques before trying them out and forming their own opinions.

1. Smoking

Smoking is one grilling technique that is growing in popularity, as products such as the Big Green Egg inspire more people to smoke their foods. Smoking involves cooking foods in closed chambers at low temperatures. Smoking is not the quickest way to whip up a meal, as the low temperatures require foods be cooked for lengthy periods of time. People who prefer their foods have a smoky flavor would no doubt prefer smoking over any other grilling technique.

2. Spit roasting

Also known as rotisserie grilling, spit roasting may call to mind pig roasts in which food placed in a chamber with a rotating, often motorized spit. Indirect heat is used to cook the foods placed on the spit or skewer, and spit roasting is often a go-to method for cooking whole birds or ribs.

3. Indirect grilling

When employing this technique to grill foods, cooks will not place their foods over a direct heat source, such as an

open flame. Instead, the foods are placed in a chamber away from the heat source before the lid is closed. The lid will remain closed while the food cooks, which can take a long time. Some people prefer indirect grilling because it tends to produce foods that are well cooked on the inside but do not have the charred exterior that foods grilled by other means may have.

4. Plank grilling

Popular among people who like to grill fish, plank grilling involves putting food on top of a plank of wood and then placing the plank over a direct heat source. In addition to the flavor imparted to the food from the heat source, such as charcoal, the plank itself can add its own unique flavor. Though fish is perhaps the food most widely associated with plank grilling, this technique also can be a great way to grill vegetables.

Some backyard barbecue devotees swear by particular grilling techniques.



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Susan's Healthy Salad

Here is that go-to salad for this summer's big family gatherings. It is delicious, serves many, is good for everyone — and they won't even know it.

- 1 cup Kraft fat-free mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup Splenda Granular
- 1 tablespoon cider vinegar
- 2 cups chopped fresh broccoli
- 1 1/2 cups chopped celery
- 1 (8-ounce) can sliced water chestnuts, drained
- 1 1/2 cups red grapes, halved
- 1 1/2 cups white grapes, halved
- 1 cup white seedless raisins
- 2 tablespoons slivered almonds
- 1/4 cup Oscar Mayer or Hormel Real Bacon Bits

1. In a large bowl, combine mayonnaise, Splenda and vinegar. Add broccoli, celery, water chestnuts, grapes, raisins and almonds. Mix gently to combine. Stir in bacon bits.

2. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes. Gently stir again just before serving. Serves 12.

* Each serving equals: 130 calories, 2g fat, 2g protein, 26g carbs, 255mg sodium, 28mg calcium, 2g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Fruit, 1/2 Fat, 1/2 Vegetable; Carb Choices: 2.

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MULTI-FAMILY SALE: August 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 8am-4pm. 886 State Highway 162, Sprakers. Antiques, hunting equipment, Christmas ornaments, crafts, kitchen/household, bedding, dishes, clothing (some new), much more! Come & see!

OPPENHEIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY town-wide garage sale. August 4th, 9am-3pm. Food and maps available at town barn.

26 OTSEGO ST., CANAJOHARIE: Saturday, August 11th from 9am-4pm. 1-day sale only! This is a fundraiser and proceeds will go to Court Catherine Esther #1264, Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Something for everyone, and priced LOW because everything must GO!

AUGUST 3rd, 4th & 5th, 9am-5pm. No early birds. 205 Murray Hill Rd., Ephratah. Collectibles, Antiques, Households, Restaurant Supplies, lots more. Watch for signs.

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GARAGE SALE: Aug. 3 & 4th, 9am-3pm, 13 West Monroe St., Little Falls. Household items.

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Nationally known storyteller Corinne Stavish kicked off Schoharie Crossing series

FORT HUNTER – Nationally known storyteller Corinne Stavish performed at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site on July 29 as the kickoff event of the annual Not Just for Kids Storytelling series. Her performance, titled "All in the Family: Three Generations of Journeys and Guilt Trips," took place at the

Schoharie Crossing Visitor Center.

Corinne Stavish has a passion for history, a love of justice, a wicked sense of humor and a drive to share stories. She shapes personal and public history into narratives described as powerful and poignant with a voice that is natural, expressive and confident. She has been featured at the National Storytelling Festival and has presented performances and workshops nationwide.

The Not Just for Kids Storytelling series continues throughout August and into September. The following artists will be part of the series: Jennifer Munro, Aug. 5; Andy Offutt Irwin, Aug. 12; Claire Nolan, Aug. 19; Anne Shimojima, Aug. 26; and Nancy Marie Payne, Sept. 9.

Saratoga Arts made this program possible with a Community Arts Grant funded by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. The program is also supported by Stewart's Shops, Mary Jane's Market, the Garden Bug, Karen's Produce, L'Ultimo and the Friends of Schoharie Crossing.

For more information about these events and more, call the Visitor Center at 518.829.7516, email SchoharieCrossing@parks.ny.gov or visit the Facebook page for Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation oversees 180 state parks and 35 historic sites which are visited by 60 million people annually. For more information on any of these recreation areas, call 518.474.0456, visit www.nysparks.com, connect on Facebook or follow on Twitter.

Country Preacher

by Pastor Dan West

James 4:11 tells us to not speak evil of or talk against one another. When we see or hear something another person is doing or saying and we disagree with them, usually we are comparing their action or words to our own paradigm and knowledge of the situation. This is called "judging." We are not to do this.

As a pastor, I often see and hear people criticize

and complain about one another. Most arguments and disagreements come from a simple misunderstanding. James tells us in **James 1:19** to be "swift to hear and slow to speak." When we try harder to understand the other person than to come up with a defense, many misunderstandings would be cleared up before they started. So often we speak against someone because what they have done or said is different than we would have, but in reality it is not wrong or bad, just different. This is a sign of being haughty, or proud, being arrogant in thinking our way is the only "right" way.

There is only one Judge of the heart, the Lord Jesus Christ (**II Timothy 4:8**). Jesus Himself taught in **Matthew 7:1** "judge not, that you be not judged." In other words, as He explains in **verse 2**, people are going to criticize you in the same way that you criticized them. If we are not critical of other people, they are much less likely to be critical of us. Let Jesus judge them. He will judge righteously, knowing their heart and motives.

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Kovels: Antiques and Collecting

by Terry and Kim Kovel
Chinese Porcelain

Chinese porcelains are among the hardest for an average collector to identify and date. They have been made for centuries, and it is considered a tribute — not an attempt to fool a customer — to copy a piece perfectly, including the original mark. Unfortunately, today there also are some who deliberately make and sell excellent copies of antiques. The pictured vase is named “Five Boys.” It is a piece of “famille rose” porcelain and has a six-character mark on the bottom. The boys are climbing or standing on the vase. One has a ruyi scepter; the others are helping each other to the top. The famille rose decoration could be several hundred years old or new. The color and clever three-dimensional figures helped the vase sell for \$1,476, its decorative value. If it were 300 years old, it would sell for much more.

Q: My Rookwood mug is old, dated 1884. It is covered with line drawings of what look like comic book figures. The name Cranch is in block letters, and the usual Rookwood marks also are on the bottom. It is yellowish-white with black lines. Who is Cranch?

A: E.P. Cranch was a lawyer in Cincinnati who also was working for the Rookwood pottery from its beginning, as well as a poet, a storyteller and an artist. Cranch used the words and often humorous pictures of activities described in ballads and folklore. He remembered a ballad sung to him by Noah Webster's nephew 50 years earlier and wrote it down and illustrated it. Cranch seems best-known for his Rookwood pieces decorated with the Uncle Remus stories. His art appears on beer mugs, pitchers, jugs, plates, bottles and vases, most made in the 1880s. Although they are very different in style than most early Rookwood, with colored glazes and realistic decorations of flowers or perhaps Indian portraits, Cranch's work sells quickly. A 6 3/4-inch-high Cranch jug sold recently for \$1,610. It was decorated



An examination of the bottom of the vase may show some clues to the age. Many modern copies of old vases have glazed, rather than unglazed, foot rims. This modern vase is worth almost \$1,500 just because it is so attractive and clever.

with scenes and the words of the poem “Three Wise Men of Gotham Went to Sea in a Bowl.”

Current prices

- Toy bubble pipe, figural bowl, “Popeye” head, smoking a pipe, sailor hat, curved stem, white plastic and paint, 1950, 6 inches, \$20.

- Advertising sack, “American Lady Self-Rising Flour,” Amelia Earhart profile, mat and frame, c. 1935, 24 x 17 inches, \$165.

- Cigar humidor, mahogany, doghouse shape, roof lifts open, brass hinges, 20 compartment cigar storage, bun feet, 1800s, 8 x 10 inches, \$280.

- Gossip bench, mahogany, upholstered, sleigh-back chair with telephone table, carved lyre design, splay legs, c. 1945, 32 x 37 inches, \$520.

Tip: You can wash an iron pot by hand with dish detergent. When iron pans were first used, soap was made with lye and it washed the seasoning off the pan. Re-season with a few drops of vegetable oil, then wipe

again.

For more collecting news, tips and resources,

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Auctions

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Weekly Sales Every Monday 11:30 with Misc. & Small animals followed by Dairy & Livestock
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Mon. Aug. 6th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Fat Cow & Feeder Sale
Wed. Aug. 8th – Langdon New Hampshire. Morrill Farm Reg. & Grade Milking Herd Dispersal – 300 head sell with 100 R&W – many more RC and 100 milking in their 1st lactation. Super herd of Freestall cows. Mgrs: Northeast Kingdom Sales & Raymond LeBlanc. Assisting as Ringman – call with your bids.
Mon. Aug. 13th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Heifer Sale
Mon. Aug. 20th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Sheep, Lamb, Goat & Pig Sale
Mon. Aug. 27th – Normal Monday Sale & Monthly Organic Day
Fri. Sept. 7th – 11:30 AM sale held at the sale barn. Nutmeg Acres Complete Registered Brown Swiss & Holstein Dispersal. Selling 80 head – 60 Swiss 20 Holsteins. 45 milking age balance youngstock. Show age calves & heifers in this group all by popular sires! Owners: Lewis & Trudy Tanner, Warren CT. 860-868-2120 cell: 860-685-0708. Watch for more complete details.
Sat. Sept. 22nd – Sale to be held at Sale barn – New Berlin, NY. 12:00 PM E.S.T. Empire State Farms Complete Final Chapter Complete Fullblood Wagyu Dispersal. Approx. 100 lots sell including: Young & Mature cows, Bred & Open Heifers, herd sire prospects, preg. recipients, cow calf pairs, embryos & semen. Watch for more complete details.
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7th
Annual

Dolgeville Consignment Auction

Friday August 10th and Saturday August 11, 2018

Proceeds to Benefit Little Falls Amish Schools

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Directions: From Johnstown: Take 29 West to Lotville Rd on right.

From Little Falls: Take Route 5 to 167 North to 29 East to Lotville Rd on left.

Auction Friday August 10 from 5:30PM Till ?

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Items Being Added Daily & Up Until Day of Sale

New Consignments Wanted: No Appliances, Tires or Junk Please, Donations Welcomed.

Quilts: Country Love quilt multi 108 x 116; Giant Dahlia quilt 96 x 107; Star in the Commons quilt 98 x 114; Flower Ring quilt 97 x 111.
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Sat., August 4th Consignment Auction ~ 6:33PM

Sat., August 11th Consignment Auction ~ 6:33PM

Sun., August 12th Breeder Sale ~ 11:33AM

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Wed., August 1st • 6:00PM
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Gun and Ammunition Consignment Auction
Wed., August 16th • 6:00PM
Guns, Long Rifles, Black Powder Guns, Shot Guns, Ammunition and more...
Consign your guns in advance to advertise your guns so they bring money!!!

Use caution with spreading plants

by B. Rosie Lerner, Purdue Extension Consumer Horticulturist

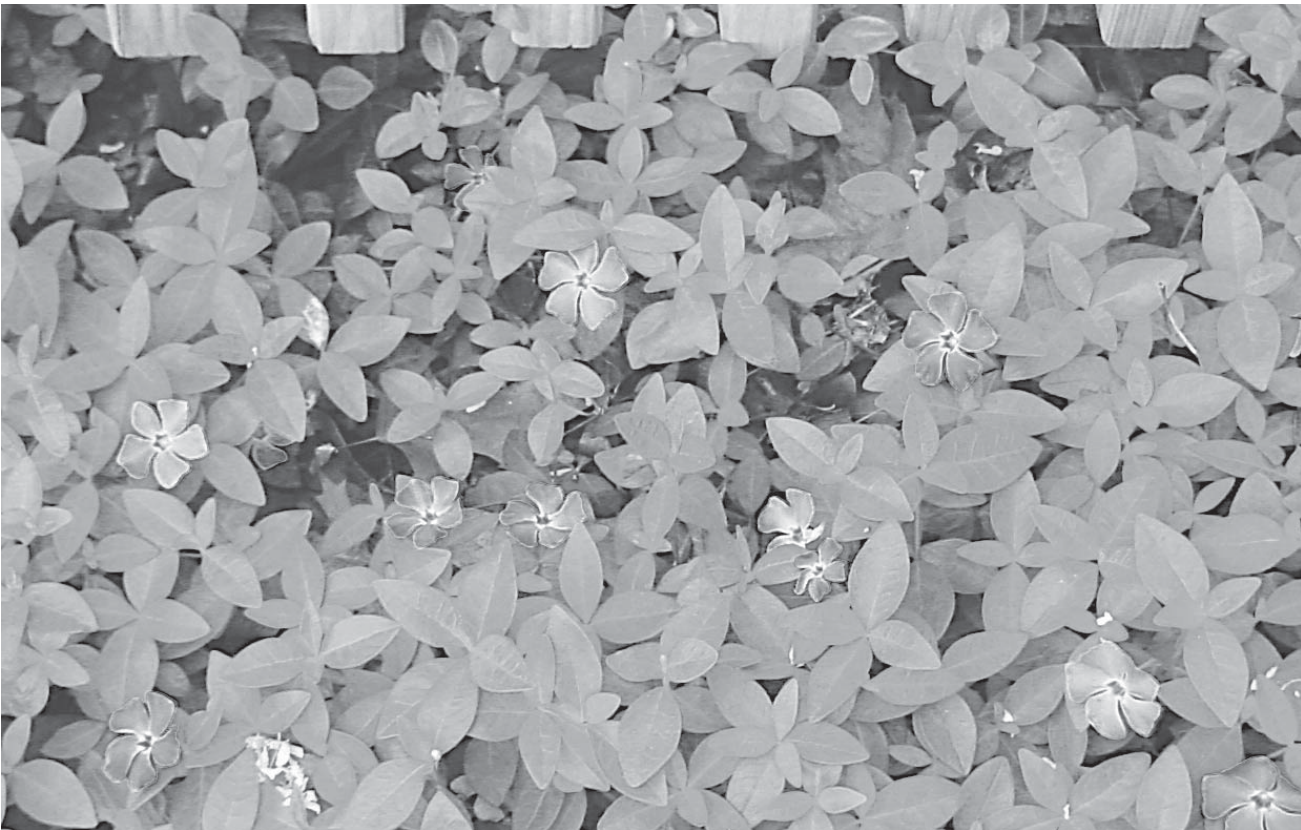
People often select plants first for their beauty and second for their functionality in the garden. Frequently, we don't know or don't consider a plant's behavior when we're selecting them.

Almost by definition, a species that is an effective ground cover will have a spreading habit. But does that make the species aggressive or invasive? There can be much confusion about the meaning of the terms aggressive and invasive.

Some plants, given their optimal habitat, can become quite prolific in the garden. A plant can be considered aggressive if it spreads and has the potential to take over a garden area. However, some planting sites may call for an aggressive habit.

A spreading plant can be considered invasive if it can also escape the garden setting and move into natural areas (prairies, wetlands, and so on) and displace native vegetation. Truly invasive plants have the po-

tential to dominate natural vegetation. Many useful plants get bad reputations for their spreading behavior when they may simply be in the wrong place or managed the wrong way. Some spreading ornamental plants have a high propensity for becoming invasive. You should always avoid using these plants in the landscape. The publication below lists some of these plants to avoid. As you consider what to plant, it may seem that more and more plants are classified as invasive — and you would be correct. There are more invasive plants for several reasons, including an increasingly unstable climate, more gardeners who unwittingly plant invasives, greater scrutiny of invasives, and changes in species (that is, individual species have adapted to cooler or warmer environments). To help you make better informed plant selections, we recently revised our publication Spreading Ornamental Plants: Virtues and Vices (Purdue Extension publication HO-295-W, formerly HLA-1-W).



Vinca minor is a plant with a high potential for an invasive habit. Do not plant!
Photo courtesy of Rosie Lerner, Purdue Extension.

Whatchamacallits

Candlesticks have long served the purpose of securing or “sticking” a burning candle, often employing a cup or a spike to keep the candle in place. Candlestick design runs the gamut from strictly utilitarian to elaborately ornamental. The introduction of electricity throughout the world phased out the necessary use of candles, but candlesticks and candelabra are still used in many homes as decorative elements or to create atmosphere on special occasions. In the time before lightbulbs, candles were brought into the bedroom using chambersticks, which were shorter than ordinary candlesticks and featured a wide pan to catch wax drippings. This particular candlestick may have been used in a bedroom based on its wide pan. Made of cast bronze, this candlestick is part of a set which also includes a mouse seated with a paddle and a rabbit with paddle. Many other examples of candlesticks like this one have wide, flat candle bases rather than the acorn slot on the mouse's back for

the candle. Its owner would use the curve of the mouse's tail to grip the candlestick. Described as “the Intrepid Mouse Candle Holder,” this example is most likely from the 1920s, when much of the UK and U.S. were still transitioning from candles and oil lamps to electricity. A newer version of this candlestick is currently manufactured by the John Lewis brand, based in London, England. John Lewis is a retail company that was founded in 1864. It started as a drapery shop, acquired a second store in 1905 and began the John Lewis Partnership in 1920, widely expanding its selection of household items available. The small, flat-bottomed cast bronze mouse figure was most likely used only for decoration or possibly as a paperweight.



GUN AUCTION
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Live every day like a soldier

by Chad Storlie

The challenge soldiers face every day is how to make an impact when there is so much to be done, there is not enough time or resources to accomplish everything, and the environment to accomplish the missions is changing, dangerous, and unknown. These challenges of peril, time constraints, and change are not unlike what we face daily in all our lives regardless of age, occupation, socioeconomic status, and geography.

Soldiers have determined how to mitigate these daily challenges by running towards the danger, solving problems, leading others, and responding positively to change. There are six attributes that we can take from soldiers and incorporate into our daily lives that focus on action, awareness, performance and leadership to make our lives better.

1. Exercise. Exercise is the start of a great day. Exercise is anything that challenges you, gets your heart rate up, makes you sweat, focuses your intensity, and makes you look forward to doing it the next day. Exercise is walking the dog, doing pullups on the monkey bars at a local park, or working out at the gym. Exercise is first in your day because once it's done, you take the feeling of accomplishment and enthusiasm with you throughout the day. Soldiers always use the morning to exercise.

2. Lead. Leading both yourself and others is the next most important task of the day. At work, at school, in your family, and throughout life, every person is a leader even if they do not have an "official" team assigned. A leader looks to organize to the most important tasks. A leader takes care of others while still accomplishing the mission. A leader sets the example for others and chooses the "right" action even when no one is looking. Society and business need more leaders that "act" as leaders as opposed to the multitude that "appear" as leaders. Great soldiers, no matter their role, always lead.

3. Confront. Confrontation is a strong word but a vital and powerful focus for daily tasks. Confrontation is saying "No!" to the continuation of major problems and stepping in boldly to solve those problems. Soldiers constantly seek to find and to solve the most pressing problems that are reducing the effectiveness of the team and impinging on mission accomplishment. Confrontation is vital for an effective day because you must seek to identify problems, test and create solutions, and then implement the solutions. Great soldiers use an initiative based mindset to seek, to confront and to solve problems.

4. Respond. Plans, schedules, and well-meaning charts never work out 100 percent — that is the nature of the world. Soldiers are unsurprised by changing conditions and seek to respond proactively and with initiative to surprises, competitor actions, and new information. As with confrontation, a focus on response makes you a leader and a contributor because you are responding to changes and threats. Waiting idly by for instructions, or worse, ignoring the threat are actions that cause missions to fail. Change happens and the best plans go awry. Great soldiers seek to respond immediately and effectively to changes.

5. Teach. Soldiers are teachers and great soldiers are incredible teachers. Teaching is a commitment to making the future better and a commitment to helping the younger generation be better than yourself. Soldiers know that injury, promotion, and orders may take them from a leadership position at any moment. Therefore, the best way to prepare soldiers and the team is to teach and train everyone to learn new skills, be better leaders, and be ready to move up into a more important role. Few leaders in any organization realize the importance of teaching. Soldiers know that teaching is a core foundation of being a great soldier.

6. Improve. A simple daily commitment to get better at just one thing is the foundation of an improvement ethos. Look around any U.S. Army base and what do you see? Soldiers running, mechanics fixing vehicles, sergeants teaching units of soldiers how to shoot better, and soldiers in a classroom learning about different cultures. A U.S. Army base is literally as focused as a college campus on understanding and improvement. Great soldiers know that they are never done with their skills. Great soldiers always improve.

Do the best you can and do the best you can every day to live your life as a soldier. Soldiers know that some days are better than others, but each day offers the opportunity to be an even better soldier, a better leader, and a better servant leader to the country.



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Calendar of events

Aug 3-4

Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka. 7 p.m. Canajoharie High School, Canajoharie. Presented by Canajoharie-Fort Plain Summer Drama Club. \$6 adults. \$4 Seniors and students.

Aug 4

Mohawk Valley Collective River Through Time Festival. Noon - 5 p.m. Music 12:30 - 5 p.m. Haslett Park, intersection of Willett and Main Street, Fort Plain. Visit www.MohawkValleyCollective.com or call 518.993.5506.

Golumbki and Pierogi Sale. 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 324 Moore Ave., Herkimer. Golumbki \$26 dozen; \$13 half dozen. Traditional pierogi \$8 dozen. New York.

Aug 5

Snell, Zimmerman, Timmerman Reunion. 10:30 a.m. Snells Bush Church, Dockey Road, Mannheim. Annual meeting and church service. Lunch buffet after the business meeting. Ice Cream Social on Saturday, Aug. 4 at the church from 6 p.m. until dusk. Public invited to both. Contact Brandt Ros-tohar at 518.568.2913.

Aug 5, 12, 19, 26 and Sept. 9

Not Just for Kids Storytelling series. Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site, Fort Hunter. The Not Just for Kids Storytelling series continues throughout August and into September. The following artists will be part of the series: Jennifer Munro, Aug. 5, Andy Offutt Irwin, Aug. 12, Claire Nolan Aug. 19, Anne Shimojima, Aug. 26 and Nancy Marie Payne, Sept. 9. For more information about these events and more, please call the Visitor Center at 518.829.7516, email: SchoharieCrossing@parks.ny.gov, or visit our Facebook page Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site.

Aug 7

Rabies Clinic. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Palatine Town Barn. 817 Stone Arabia Rd. Fort Plain. For more information call 518.853.3531.

Music On Mainstreet 2018 presents Kara Grainger. Main Street, Canajoharie. Come out and enjoy the sultry sound of Austrai Lian singer-song writer Kara Grainger. Her style is a distinctly modern take on roots, blues, and soul music.

Aug 7-9

Young Pioneers Program. For more information visit www.fortklockhistoric.org, call 518.568.7779 or find us on Facebook. .

Aug 8

Town of Palatine Comprehensive Steering Committee meeting. 7 p.m. Palatine Town Hall, 141 W. Grand Street, Palatine Bridge. The meeting is to hear input by way of a SWOT Analysis from any town resident age 18 and older. If you have questions you may contact Village Clerk Barbara Millington at 518.673.2917.

Small Town Big Band Concert. 7 p.m. Bandstand. Route 20. Richfield Springs. For more information, call 315.858.0964.

Aug 8 and 22

Wildlife Wednesdays. Visitor Center at 129 Schoharie Street, Fort Hunter. Wildlife Wednesdays continue Aug. 8 at 5:30 p.m. and Aug. 22 at 6:30 p.m. For information please call the Visitor Center at 518.829.7516, email SchoharieCrossing@parks.ny.gov, or visit our Facebook page.

Aug 10 and 12

Salisbury Town Wide Garage Sale. Aug. 10-12 18. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Maps available at country store and covered bridge store on Route 29, Salisbury Center, NY

13454. Contact Stephanie Boyer 315.717.7989.

Aug 11

Ephratah Event Day. Aug 11 18. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. RGL Firehouse, Rte 29, Ephratah. 11-2 Car Show at the Recreation Center, Rte. 29. Lassellsville Senior Center, Rte 29, selling hot dogs and beverages. Recreation Center Nature Trail open from dawn to dusk. Caroga Creek Raceway, races 2 p.m. until over. Townwide Garage Sales.

Rabies Clinic. 9 a.m. - noon. Rural Grove Fire Department. 1192 Rt. 162. Rural Grove. For more information call 518.853.3531.

Ames Academy School Reunion. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. All welcome to help the students celebrate. Check Facebook for schedule of events or contact f@amesmuseum.

Homemade Polish Food Sale. 11 a.m. until sold out - eat in/take out. Golumbki, Pierogi, Kapusta, Kielbasa. Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church, 618 E. Gansevoort Street, Little Falls. Pre-orders are appreciated. Call John and Janice Rogers 315.429.9314. WWW.HolySpiritPNCC.org.

Aug 14

Music On Mainstreet 2018 presents The Corvettes Doo-Wop Revue. Aug 14 18. Main Street, Canajoharie. The Corvettes Doo-Wop Revue is dedicated to preserving and performing the greatest music ever made, 1950's Doo-Wop. We will also be featuring a rat rod car show.

Aug 15

Ice Cream Social. 5 - 8 p.m. South Minden Fire Dept. St. Hwy 163, Fort Plain. Sponsored by South Minden Ladies Auxiliary.

NOTE: Calendar items must be submitted by Tuesday prior to the publication date to be included in the Calendar of Events. Entries may be emailed to cfeditor@leepub.com



Letter to the Editor

The opinions printed are not necessarily those of the staff or management at *Country Folks*. Submit letters of opinion (500 words or less) to cfeditor@leapub.com or mail to Editor, *Country Folks*, PO Box 121, Palatine Bridge, NY 13428.

Moved back to Fort Plain

I moved into a home on Willett Street, Fort Plain, NY on Dec. 29, 2017. I lived in Georgia for nine years and returned to Montgomery County. I enjoyed working in nursing for 24 years, became disabled, and decided to return to country life and my beloved New York. I'm a Canjo (Canajoharie) girl at heart but the small, cozy house seemed perfect for my pets and I. I looked forward to meet-

ing my new neighbors. At first, I didn't realize the vulgar comments and threats were directed at me. Why would the adults and children be verbally attacking me? I had never experienced true prejudice...hate for the sake of hate? The ugliness of my new hood was apparent. I was also shot at. I have made 27 calls to the police agencies. I spoke with Mayor Quackenbush, contacted Governor Cuomo, legal aid and HUD. The basketball court next to my house has fights, drug and alcohol use, and unsupervised toddlers and teens shouting threats. I'm asking village residents to contact the mayor and village officials and insist the basketball court be removed. Let's insist the parents of these

young adults supervise them. Let them put a basketball hoop in their yards, near their parents' homes. Being poor and bored is no excuse for victimizing retired folks. Five generations of my family have lived here and not one of us ever victimized an elderly person. I watch in disbelief as our tax dollars pay the village employees to pick up their litter, repair village windows on the village buildings and signs on the bike path. The basketball court is a privilege. Just like when we were kids... you abuse it, you lose it! Young bullies grow up to be adult bullies. The child who had access to the pellet gun has access to a rifle. In the words of my dad, God bless America! **Victoria Kraft Fort Plain, NY**

Chow Line: USDA warns: Wash your hands properly to prevent foodborne illness

by Tracy Turner

Q: My husband gets frustrated with me because I'm always reminding him to wash his hands multiple times when cooking. He says washing before he cooks is enough. Which one of us is right? **A:** In this case, you are right. In fact, the U.S. Department of Agriculture sent out a warning recently urging people to wash their hands throughout the food preparation process, not just at the beginning of cooking. And when you wash your hands, the USDA is urging people to take their time and wash their hands properly. This warning comes as a new USDA study in collaboration with North Carolina State University and RTI International, a North Carolina-based nonprofit research institute, found that people are failing to properly wash their hands 97 percent of the time when they are cooking, and instead are rushing through the process. The study was conducted in six test kitchen facilities. It found that most people failed to wash their hands for the recommended 20 seconds, and most did not dry their hands with a clean towel. Many, instead, wiped their hands on their

clothes or other objects. Rushed handwashing can lead to cross-contamination of food and other surfaces, resulting in foodborne illness. For example, the study found that 48 percent of participants spread bacteria from raw meat on their hands onto spice containers; 11 percent spread bacteria to refrigerator handles; and 5 percent of the time, bacteria was spread to salads. One way to avoid cross-contamination is to always follow handwashing recommendations as advised by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: • Wet your hands with clean, running water. • Apply soap and lather to your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers and under your nails. • Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds — the amount of time it takes to hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice. • Rinse your hands well under clean, running water. • Dry your hands using a clean towel, or air dry them. If soap and water are not available, you might alternatively use an alcohol-

based hand sanitizer that is at least 60 percent alcohol, CDC says. However, it is important to note that while these sanitizers can reduce the number of pathogens on your hands in many situations, they don't remove all types of pathogens. Chow Line is a service of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and its outreach and research arms, OSU Extension and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center.

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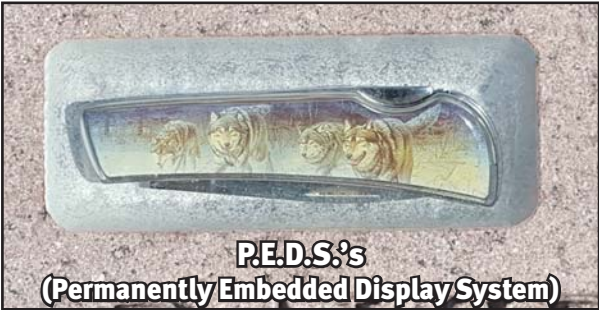
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FORT HUNTER – Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site hosted environmental educator and author Anita Sanchez on July 25 for the third program in its 2018 Wildlife Wednesday series. Sanchez discussed wild edible plants and also sampled some edible

plants found on the grounds of the historic site. We also tried some wild teas.

Sanchez worked as an environmental educator for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at education centers across the state. She now is a

freelance educator, providing programs for schools, libraries, museums, botanical gardens and arboreta. She is a successful author and champion of unloved plants and has written "The Teeth of the Lion: The Story of the Beloved and Despised Dandelion" and most recently "Leaflets Three, Let it Be! The Story of Poison Ivy."

Donations to the Friends of Schoharie Crossing are always appreciated. Wildlife Wednesdays continue Aug. 8 at 5:30 p.m. and Aug. 22 at 6:30 p.m. Upcoming nature programs include an Early Morning Bird Walk with George Steel beginning 6:30 a.m. on Aug. 12 at Yankee Hill Lock on Queen Anne Road, and Anita Sanchez will return, presenting on "The Teeth of the Lion: The Story of the Beloved and Despised Dandelion" on Tuesday, Aug. 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Enders House. ECOS: The Environmental Clearinghouse of Schenectady will also be conducting a paddle event from Schoharie Crossing on Aug. 11 to highlight the environmental aspects of the Schoharie Creek and Mohawk River.

For information about this series and other events listed, call the Visitor Center at 518.829.7516, email SchoharieCrossing@park.s.ny.gov or visit the Facebook page. Information can also be found on the New York State Parks website.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation oversees 180 state parks and 35 historic sites which are visited by 60 million people annually. For more information on any of these recreation areas, call 518.474.0456, visit www.nysparks.com, connect on Facebook or follow on Twitter.

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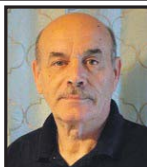
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052: 111 State Highway 80, **FORT PLAIN:** Don't judge the size of this home from the outside. There is plenty of space in this solid built home. This home is built on solid concrete piers in a full basement. There are three bedrooms on the first floor and the second is floor is finished, but is wide open. It makes a nice family/game room or can be converted to one or two additional bedrooms.

THIS HOME IS CERTIFIED NOT TO BE IN A FLOOD ZONE. There is a full bathroom on the first floor and a half bath in the basement. The attached garage with access to the basement provides space for an open deck off the back porch. **Asking \$90,000**



687: 130 Short Road, **SHARON SPRINGS:** The dream kitchen and open living and dining space will welcome you home the moment you arrive. This is a four bedroom, two full bath home. You'll notice the care that has been placed in updating and maintaining every room here. The large outdoor living space has been transformed into a park-like setting. **Asking \$209,000**



Morton building 4-car garage. Enjoy walking on the many scenic nature trails throughout the property. (SBL 129-3-13 included in sale) **Asking \$250,000**

289: **NEW LISTING!!!** 307 East Road, **EPHRATAH:** Looking for privacy and seclusion? This gorgeous Cape Cod style home sits on 11.5 private acres and has everything you could ever want. 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1st floor laundry, a partially finished basement with a workshop and a huge



847: **NEW LISTING!!!** 210 Moyer Street, **CANAJOHARIE:** Great village home with many characteristics!!! Walking distance to schools, fenced in back yard, 3 bedrooms, 1 full bath 2nd floor, 1 half bath 1st floor, three season porch, hardwood flooring, 100 amp breakers, laundry room, new hot water heater

and a fireplace. Two car detached garage. Sit in the back yard by the fire pit and listen to the gorge below. With some TLC this home would be a gorgeous home for entertaining. MUST BE A FHA WITH 203 OR CONVENTIONAL LOAN. **Asking \$69,900**



055: **NEW LISTING!!!** 154 Otsego Street, **CANAJOHARIE:** This home has been well cared for and has new wood/laminate floors, new windows, new stove, many extras included. Great starter home for new family, easy to heat. Two bedrooms, one full bath. Cozy screened in back porch overlooking small, but very nice backyard. Family room was used as a third bedroom home. Attic could also be converted to living space. **Asking \$79,000**



and one on the 2nd floor. It sits on a beautiful 1.1 acre lot and has detached 2-car garage along with single car garage out back that is great for storage. Snowblower, John Deere riding lawnmower and air conditioners are all included. **Asking \$94,500**

291: **NEW LISTING!!!** 161 Mohawk Drive, **AMSTERDAM:** This well-kept bungalow home must be seen to be appreciated. This home has a large first floor master bedroom, a full bath, a spacious and bright dining room with exposed beams that's great for entertaining and pristine carriage house cabinets in the kitchen. There are 2 bedrooms on the first floor



507: 548 Lynk Street, **SPRAKERS:** Many original features come with this Center Hall Colonial home. Dining room with fireplace, built-in shelves in the living room, wide plank flooring and original door knobs. Two staircases. Detached garage and a pond in your backyard. If you are looking for an old home with charm, this is it!!! **Asking \$209,000**



RV hookups (inside and out). Private well and septic. Neighboring land available for sale. Easy commute to the Capital District. **Asking \$114,900**

511: **REDUCED!!!** 1644 State Highway 162, **SPRAKERS:**

Three clear acres with 325 feet of road frontage. Ideal property to build your new home. A 32x60 garage with 2x6 construction and 14 foot ceilings. Concrete floor, 2 bays with 13x13 overhead doors, bathroom, 2nd floor kitchen and



281: **PRICE REDUCED!!!!** 303 Brookmans Corners Road, **FORT PLAIN:** Charming farmhouse with a beautiful view sitting on 9.1 acres! Three bedrooms with an additional 3 room unfinished area upstairs that has a lot of potential. One full bath on first floor. Several updates have been done, house is ready for the new owner for the 7 vines, apple trees, peach trees, and cherry trees. **Asking \$137,000**



288: **NEW LISTING!!!** 333 North Shore Road, **BLEECKER:** Imagine four seasons of relaxation in this cozy lake house. Knotty pine throughout entire cottage. Two bedrooms on first floor, one on second. Full bath on 1st floor. Stone fireplace for cool nights, but you'll be plenty warm with central heat. Open floor plan with cathedral ceilings, stainless steel appliances, a large kitchen island and so much more! Large master bedroom with sliding doors that open onto deck. Approved building lot (SBL100.11-1-2) next door included in the sale. Both lots have stunning views of Sunrise Bay and deeded lake access. Paid marina slip included. **Asking \$159,000**



286: **PRICE REDUCED!!!!** 2245 State Highway 10, **CAROGA:** This cozy cottage is walking distance to your shared dock on East Caroga Lake! Vaulted ceiling, knotty pine walls, loft bedroom and deck to enjoy your morning coffee or your evening BBQ. Two bedrooms and one full bath. This is a year-round home and a perfect getaway. **Asking \$108,000**



678: **NEW LISTING!!!** 6143 Main Street, **NELLISTON:** One story Vanilla Shell. Commercial space would be ideal for office space and or retail space. Paved driveway and located on route 5. Additional buildings include 1 stall garage and a 1970 single wide trailer. 2.7 acres with 210 feet of road frontage. This is a great opportunity. **Asking \$144,900**

TOP TIPS TO HELP FIRST-TIMERS NAVIGATE THE FAST-PACED HOUSING MARKET

(BPT) — Across the U.S., the housing market is picking up pace moving into the peak of the summer homebuying season.

In city after city, home prices are on the rise, up 2.3 percent on average between April 2017 and 2018, according to the RE/MAX April 2018 National Housing Report. And there are fewer houses on the market to choose from, with total housing inventory down by 11.3 percent.

Based on home sales in April 2018, the national supply of inventory was at 2.5 months, making it a strong seller's market. (A 6-month supply of inventory historically indicates a market that is balanced equally between buyers and sellers.)

What's fueling the demand? More members of the millennial generation entering the housing market, among other factors.

If you're ready to stop renting and start enjoying the benefits of home ownership, finding the perfect house within your price range can seem daunting, especially in a seller's market. Keep these things in mind to find and close on that special home.

1. Keep an eye on your credit score

The interest rate of your mortgage matters a great deal. Even a fraction of a percentage can add (or subtract) thousands of dollars over the life of a 30-year loan. One thing that can influence your interest rate is your credit score - it's just one way for the lender to determine how likely you are to repay the loan. Well before you begin browsing properties online, take steps to get your credit score in the strongest possible position. Review your credit report and report errors immediately. Make on-time payments and put off opening new credit accounts until after the mortgage is finalized.

2. Work with a full-time, experienced real estate agent

Plenty of online services claim you can save money by completing the process without a real estate agent. But as many buyers discover, the savings don't always come through as promised. In fact, going through this complex process without professional guidance can definitely lead to costly problems later. If you work with an agent, you'll get to work with a pro who's in touch with the local market and can lend a helping hand every step of the way. Their expertise can help you find that perfect house and help you craft the right strategy for your offer. Visit remax.com to find a professional agent in your area.

3. Play to your strengths

When you find the right house, you may not be the only one

making an offer on the property. That can be intimidating. But keep in mind it's not always about coming in with the highest dollar amount. Buyers have different motivations to sell. Some may be in a situation where they want to close and move out as soon as possible. They'll be less likely to work with buyers who have their own houses to sell, making first-time buyers more attractive candidates.

Buying a house is a big step, and in the heat of a seller's market, it takes extra patience and perseverance. Find the right real estate agent to help you through the process, and moving day may arrive sooner than you expected.



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FIVE HOME-BUYING TIPS FOR FIRST-TIMERS AND OLD-TIMERS

(BPT) — Whether you are buying a home for the first time or you are just looking for an upgrade, it is never a bad idea to arm yourself with tips that can make your search go from overwhelming to enjoyable. Rather than learning the hard way about hidden expenses and difficult neighbors, there are things you can do to feel more confident as you begin your search.

With a seller's market in many parts of the country, these tips are even more important as you battle other buyers for the home of your dreams. The more efficient and straightforward you are in your search, the better chance you'll have to hear "offer accepted."

Consider all the costs

When starting the home-buying journey, the first thing to consider is the cost and expenses. When pre-approved for a mortgage of a certain amount, keep in mind that number is not a target — it is a maximum. While a seller's market often means little wiggle room on price, your best bet is to find a property below that number so you have a financial cushion when negotiations happen.

It is important to remember the mortgage is not the total cost of your home. It usually only covers principal, interest, property taxes and homeowner's insurance premiums. Homeownership involves many other expenses like closing costs, home repairs and potential yearly increases in property taxes.

Last, and something few people think about, if you have a life insurance policy, be sure to review it to make sure your coverage takes into account the mortgage debt on your new home. This ensures that if something happens to you, your family is financially secure.

Be flexible but firm

Finding the right home requires a delicate balance of flexibility and finesse. At the same time, you want to stand firm when

it comes to your non-negotiables in your new home (price, school district, a second bathroom).

This is where having a real estate agent can be of enormous benefit. Agents have the expertise and time to devote to your search that allows you to flex when opportunity arises and get a home that doesn't break your budget. Finding the right agent is a lot like finding the right home — you need to do your research. Get referrals for accredited agents and have meetings with two or three of them before deciding who to hire. Make sure they have experience working with homes in your price point and are familiar with the areas you are looking to buy in. Lastly, do not sign an exclusive broker agreement unless you are certain you have found the right agent for you. There are many resources available to help you find an agent that understands your individual needs, such as USAA's Real Estate Rewards Network.

Meet the neighbors

While location is important, many factors feed into a great neighborhood. From disputes over pets and parking to personality clashes, neighbors can have a big impact on your happiness as a homeowner. Before committing to a neighborhood, take time to walk the street and gauge compatibility with the neighbors you meet. Talking with the neighbors may also reveal hidden quirks about the home you would not have known otherwise, such as a basement that constantly floods or an ongoing dispute about a property line.

More house is more work

Television shows have glamorized home renovation. Before deciding on a "fixer upper," make sure you have a full understanding of what it will take — and how much it will cost — to make the house match your vision. Construction projects often take longer than anticipated and can reveal other problems that end up costing more money. If your home is a complete renovation you also won't be able to live there during construction,

so you need to ask yourself, can you afford to pay for two homes for several months?

Similarly, a larger house means more time and money spent on upkeep. A house with a big yard may have great curb appeal but will you truly use all that space? Be realistic, because the money for maintenance on a bigger house is money in your pocket at a smaller house that has many of the features you want.

Lastly, remember that no home improvement project will change your commute or how noisy the nearby traffic is.

Use your head, not your heart

One final piece of advice — do not let your emotions take over the process. Choosing a home can be stressful and overwhelming. It is important to keep a level head. No decision this big should be made on an impulse, so take your time and think through every aspect of the process.

To learn more tips and tricks to buying a home or to find a trusted agent near you, visit USAA's Home Learning Center.



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8 Cayadutta Street, Fonda



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280 Cty Hwy 140, Ephratah



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NEW \$85,000
13 Main St., Fultonville



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REDUCED \$210,000
1761 Hickory Hill Rd, Fonda



This 4 BDRM, 2 full bath home comes with a STELLAR VIEW! You can see endless miles of the beautiful valley. Home features all wood flooring, carriage house kitchen, family room, new screened in back porch, CENTRAL AC, large dry basement, 2 car garage & 2.8+/- acres.

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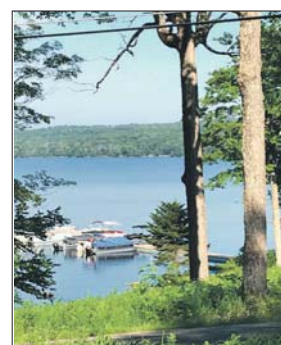
Pasture & gorgeous 3 bdrm, 2 bath home w/family room & den, too many features to list. Professional landscaping with 4 types of berries, fruit trees and lots of perennials! Nothing to do but move in!



NEW LISTING

Classy Peck Lake House \$299,900

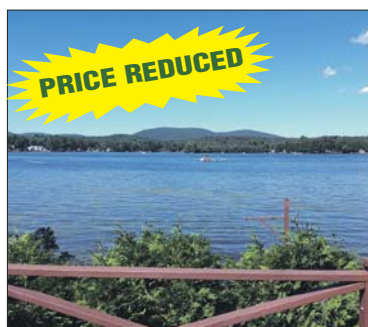
You'll be impressed! Enjoy abundant lake views from this immaculate 5 bedroom, 2 bath, year round home overlooking Sunrise Bay. Nothing to do but move in & enjoy summer at the lake!



NEW LISTING

Lassellsville Gentleman's Farm \$163,000

7.6 acres, Fields, woods & year round creek, lovely restored Colonial that goes on and on! 3+ BR, 1.5BA, wood flrs, formal dining & living rms, office.



PRICE REDUCED

East Caroga Lake \$325,000

Enjoy these lake and Mt Views from this East Caroga Lake Property! New Kitchen with Washer/Dryer, Living room with Stone fireplace. Large lake side Deck overlooking 120ft of Sandy Waterfront!



Keyser Lake! Motor Friendly!

\$178,000

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PRICE REDUCED

West Caroga Lake \$249,900

65x400FT. Lot. Wonderful 2BR + loft, open interior, open living room, eat in kitchen. Modern septic. Sandy waterfront.



PRICE REDUCED

Bleecker! \$79,000

80 acres!! Off the grid cabin with wood stove! Drilled well! Plenty of privacy and trails through the acreage. Get away from it all. Start a Hunting Club!!



NEW LISTING

New! \$118,000

Lakeview Beach Association just steps away from this darling 3 season cottage! 2BR/1BA plus more room for guests on the front porch or in the living room! 2 lots included provide plenty of privacy! Neat and clean and WELL Maintained!



NEW LISTING

Caroga Lake ACREAGE \$172,000

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NEW LISTING

Bleeker Mt. \$158,000

Super neat and clean 3 bdrm, 1 bath with hardwood down. Big living room & den with pellet stove. New furnace, granite counter kitchen, attached 2 car garage. Gardens, patio, back porch. Move in ready.



\$165,000

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3BR 1Bath w/washer/dryer! Full basement, easy to add furnace for year round living! 210FT of Road Frontage 100FT Deep Lot! Plenty of privacy in the back. Drilled well, modern septic!



PRICE REDUCED

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Good Housekeeping

Easy Grilled Plums

Dessert deserves a spot on the grill, too!

- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
- 6 plums
- 1 cup ricotta
- 1 teaspoon orange zest
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1/4 cup shelled pistachios
- 1. Heat grill to medium. Sprinkle

the sugar over the cut side of the plums and grill, cut-side down, until slightly charred and beginning to caramelize, 1 to 2 minutes. Turn and cook, covered, 2 minutes more.

2. Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, combine the ricotta and orange zest.

3. Transfer the plums to plates, spoon the ricotta mixture over the

top, drizzle with the honey, and sprinkle with pistachios. Makes 6 servings. Calories per serving: 249.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our website at www.goodhousekeeping.com/recipes/.

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Make the most of your home improvement dollars

Home improvement projects provide homeowners with a chance to put their own stamp on their homes. In addition, many such projects make homes safer and, in some instances, more eco-friendly.

The opportunity to make a home more comfortable, safer and/or more eco-friendly entices many homeowners to open their wallets. In fact, the Home Improvement Research Institute estimates that the home improvement products market will grow by more than 5 percent in 2018.

Homeowners might experience some sticker shock when researching home improvement projects or receiving estimates from contractors. But there are ways for budget-conscious homeowners to transform their homes and still make the most of their home improvement dollars.

- Do your homework. Each year, Remodeling magazine publishes its "Cost vs. Value Report," a comprehensive study of 21 popular remodeling projects in 149 United States

markets. The report notes the value each project retains at resale in 100 markets across the country. Homeowners who want to get the strongest return on investment can access the "Cost vs. Value Report" (www.remodeling.how.net) to see which home improvement projects are best suited for them.

- Do some of the labor yourself. Homeowners willing to swing a hammer also can stretch their home improvement dollars. For example, the home improvement resource *This Old House*® notes that homeowners willing to do their own demolition before the contractors arrive can save substantial amounts of money. A professional contractor may

charge \$1,000 to demo a 200-square-foot deck, but *This Old House* estimates that homeowners who demo their own decks may spend only \$450 (for the dumpster rental and parking permit).

- Hire a consultant. The DIY movement is incredibly popular, no doubt thanks to television channels such as HGTV and the DIY Network. Homeowners with DIY experience may be able to complete projects on their own

with little consultation from professional contractors. Some contractors may not offer consulting services, however. The consultation route, which typically requires paying licensed contractors hourly fees to offer guidance, should only be considered by homeowners with legitimate DIY skills, for whom this option can be a great way to save money.

- Schedule renovations during homeowner-friendly times of year. Summer and fall tend to

be contractors' busy seasons, and homeowners will likely pay more for projects during this time of year. If possible, delay

starting projects until right after the new year, when contractors aren't so busy and might be more flexible with pricing.



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August 14th
The Corvettes Doo-Wop Revue
The Corvettes Doo-Wop Revue is dedicated to preserving and performing the greatest music ever made, 1950's Doo-Wop. Come out and join the fun! We will also be featuring a rat rod car show

August 21st
The Old Main
The old main has been billed as Folk/Rock, Adirondack Folk, Foot Stomp Folk, Alt-Americana, but regardless te category, their high energy live performances leave the crowd wanting more

August 28th
The Mark May Band
Music on Mainstreet caps off the season with former Dickey Betts & great southern member Mark May and his band. Join us for a night of high energy blues-rock

For more info call 518-224-5000

2018

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Poke

4 Beach stuff

8 Part of the foot?

12 Supplement, with "out"

13 From the start

14 In the vicinity

15 Congratulatory slap

17 Oodles

18 Open

19 Meadow

21 G.I.'s dinner, for short

22 Showing cleavage

26 Computer acronym

29 Stein or Stiller

30 Life time?

31 Swiss capital

32 Staff

33 Oven

34 Swelled head

35 "Explain, please"

36 — Major (Sirius' constellation)

37 Restrained

39 Evergreen type

40 Trawler need

41 Tips over

45 Ontario neighbor

48 Gary Cooper movie

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

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 54 55

50 Tab

51 Small grimace

52 Stickum

53 Weevil's target

54 Litigant

55 Sphere

7 Lived

8 Post-vow relative

9 Ultramodernist

10 House pet

11 Day fractions (Abbr.)

16 Surround

20 Many millenia

23 First son

24 Aptly named fruit?

25 Sawbucks

26 23-Down's victim

27 Lily variety

28 Boast

29 Tarzan's son

32 Beats

33 Singer Akers

35 Infinitesimal

36 Written code

38 Dead ringer?

39 Bach piece, often

42 Nixed, at NASA

43 Entrance

44 Uppity sort

45 Recede

46 Carnival city

47 Ailing

49 Debtor's letters

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Headset is missing. 2. Soda can is missing. 3. Hair is shorter. 4. Collar is missing. 5. House is missing. 6. Thermos is smaller.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

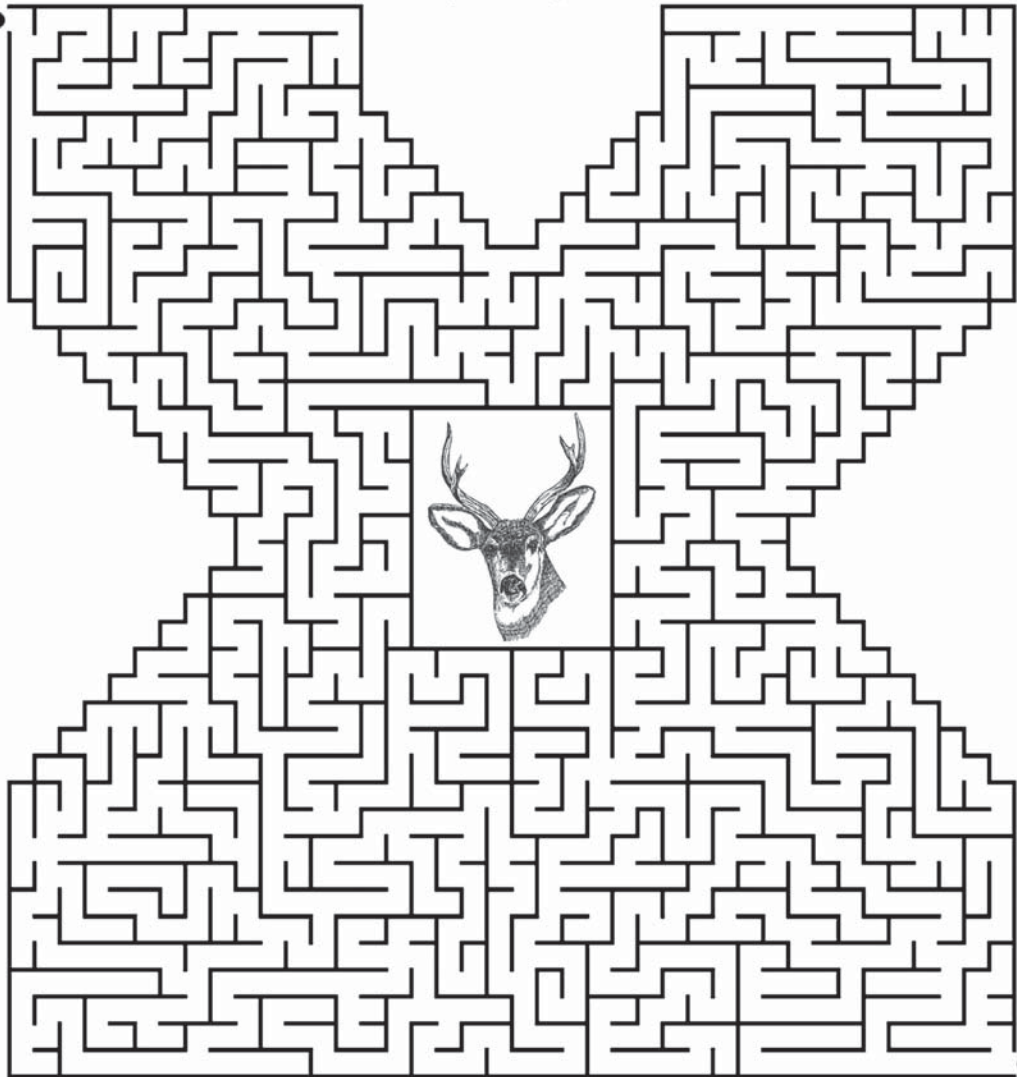
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Mega Maze

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

THE LIVESTOCK WORRIES ABOUT: GETTING ENOUGH TO EAT AND DRINK...

THE BOY WORRIES ABOUT: HIS FRIENDS, TV AND GETTING A CELL PHONE.

THE DAD WORRIES ABOUT: THE CROPS, FAMILY AND THE BILLS TO BE PAID.

MOM WORRIES ABOUT: FAMILY, CROPS, BILLS, WHAT'S FOR DINNER, LAUNDRY, ECONOMY, HEALTH, NEIGHBORS, GIFTS, WEATHER, HOME, MARRIAGE, CHILD, DISHES, GRADES, SCHOOL, MONEY, TION, TRIP

"AUGUST RAIN: THE BEST OF THE SUMMER GONE, AND THE NEW FALL NOT YET BORN. THE ODD UNEVEN TIME."
Sylvia Plath, "The Unabridged Journals of Sylvia Plath"

STICKELERS [sic]
by Terry Stickels

How many anagrams can you find for the following words?

- stripes
- trainers
- angered
- rubies

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Good Housekeeping

Grilled Southwestern Pasta Salad

Here's a hearty summer salad made with grilled steak, fresh vegetables and multigrain pasta, with just the right amount of cumin, fresh cilantro and

lime juice.

8 ounces multigrain or whole-wheat penne

8 ounces lean boneless sirloin steak

1/2 teaspoon each ground cumin, salt and pepper

3 medium poblano chile peppers, halved and seeded

1 ear fresh corn, husked

1 medium sweet onion, sliced 1/2-inch thick

Nonstick spray

2 large ripe tomatoes

1 tablespoon olive oil
1/4 cup lime juice
1/2 cup chopped cilantro

1. Cook pasta in a large pot of lightly salted water as package directs. Drain; rinse under cold water and drain again. Transfer to a large serving bowl.

2. Heat outdoor grill. Rub steak with 1/4 teaspoon each of the cumin, salt and pepper. Coat steak, peppers, corn and onion with nonstick spray.

3. Grill steak 4 to 6 minutes, turning once, for medium-rare. Remove to cutting board; let stand 5 minutes. Grill peppers, corn and onion 8 to 10

minutes, turning as needed until lightly charred and tender.

4. Cut peppers and onion into bite-size pieces and cut corn off cob; add to bowl with pasta. Slice steak thinly against the grain and add to bowl.

5. Add remaining cumin, salt and pepper and remaining ingredients to bowl; toss to mix and coat. Serves 4.

For thousands of triple-tested recipes, visit our Web site at www.good-housekeeping.com/recipe/s/.

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- Community Auction
September 22, watch for details
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- Elves Night Out
Friday, Dec. 7, 2018

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Paw's Corner

by Sam Mazzotta

More ways to foil high-flying felines

Dear Paw's Corner: I read with interest the recent column where a reader put aluminum pie plates on surfaces, like the stove, where cats weren't allowed. That sounds like a good solution to stopping cats from jumping onto the countertops.

Our cats, when they were young, would jump 5 feet straight up to the

tops of kitchen cabinets. Needless to say, this was annoying and more than a little concerning.

My wife got some plastic rug runners that had knubby things on the bottom to keep the runners from moving on a carpet. She cut pieces and laid them on top of the cabinets with the knubby side up. It took only a few times for the cats to realize the cabinet tops were not comfortable.

The knubby things could not hurt the cats, but they certainly didn't feel good. — Bob R., via email

Dear Bob: Thank you for the suggestion! Readers, if you try this solution, be sure to use rug runners with nylon or softer plastic nubs. Essentially, discouraging cats from jumping onto surfaces where you don't

want them requires you to put something on those surfaces that they don't like, but which won't hurt them. An unfamiliar texture will keep them from hanging around on those surfaces.

High-pitched noises can send them away, such as the rattle of an aluminum pie plate. Some cat owners keep a "shaker can" handy — a small can with

a lid, like a potato chip can, filled with pennies or other objects that make a jangling, high-pitched noise when shaken.

Keep in mind that these are all forms of negative reinforcement, so try to limit their use to stopping very specific behaviors that might endanger your cat.

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Compost happens, or does it?

by Dr. Leonard Perry, Horticulture Professor Emeritus, University of Vermont

A compost pile only makes desirable compost for the garden if conditions are proper. If you've begun composting in a bin or pile, and it isn't turning into that rich dark organic matter that you see in photos and buy in bagged compost, the process may need some help.

If your compost has a rotten smell, this may mean your compost is too wet or too compacted. In either case, sufficient air isn't getting to the microorganisms

that are what make materials decompose into the final compost. To add more air, turn the pile with a garden fork or similar tool every few days. You can add a dry, porous material such as sawdust or straw if the pile seems too wet. Another option is to break the pile into smaller ones. If you do this, though, it may not get hot enough for these microorganisms.

If, on the other hand, your compost is too dry it won't decompose. If you're in a dry area, or drought without much natural rain, moisten layers as you add materials to your pile, and re-wet them as needed. They should be as moist as a wrung-out sponge.

If you smell ammonia, this indicates that there is too much nitrogen and not enough carbon. These same microorganisms use carbon for food, and nitrogen to make proteins. Without these, or with the improper balance, the microorganisms won't do their job effectively. So if you smell ammonia, add more high carbon material such as straw and less high nitrogen materials such as grass clippings.

You should aim for about 30 parts carbon to one part nitrogen, by weight, although this doesn't have to be exact. A rule of thumb that some use is to add two to three parts (by volume) of brown materials (carbon containing) to one part green (nitrogen containing). If your compost is decomposing slowly, perhaps you have too much brown material and need to add more green.

Fallen leaves, straw, sawdust (not from pressure treated wood), paper (shredded paper decomposes more quickly), cardboard and woody material such as twigs (again, best shredded) are high in carbon. Moist, dense material such as manures, coffee grounds, vegetable and fruit trimmings, and green gardening trimmings are high in nitrogen. Lush, green grass clippings are a great source of nitrogen, even greater if you fertilize your lawn. However, in general, it is best to mow regularly and to leave the clippings on the lawn to decompose there.

Even with the right ratio of brown and green materials, your compost may proceed slowly or not at all if there are no microor-

ganisms. This is the reason many add layers of soil in between layers of green and brown materials. You might aim for about five to eight inches deep of the brown, two to three inches deep of the green, and then a layer of soil or composted manure one to two inches deep. Repeat these layers until your pile is high enough or bin is full.

A problem that many, including me, have in our colder northern climate is the compost pile not heating up properly. Composting microorganisms do their job in the range of 95 to 160 degrees F. Too low a temperature and they work slowly, if at all. Ideal temperature in the interior of compost piles is about 120 to 130 degrees (F). Temperatures can be measured with compost thermometers — basically a dial on a long rod — obtained at complete garden supply stores or online.

If, over weeks or months your compost just isn't progressing, or the season is cool, consider if your pile is too small. Large piles hold heat in the interior better. Not enough moisture, poor air circulation, and lack of nitrogen also are reasons the compost pile might not be heating up properly. In addition to tips already mentioned, try insulating the pile with straw to hold in heat more effectively.

Another reason compost might be progressing slowly, if at all, is that the acidity (pH) is too acid, or too alkaline. These same microorganisms prefer a neutral to slightly acid environment. Many materials you add to compost are acidic, hence the reason a sprinkling of lime often is recommended (to raise the pH). Too much lime, or too many wood ashes which serve the same purpose, and the pile will be too alkaline (high pH). You can check this with inexpensive soil test kits from garden stores. Add more materials if the pH is too high.

Follow all these tips for an "active" pile, and you should end up with good compost, eventually. Be patient, as in cooler climates and with small piles or bins as in most home gardens, compost may take up to a year to be ready. But your soil will be better for it in the end, and you'll be recycling all these great organic materials into your garden rather than into a landfill.

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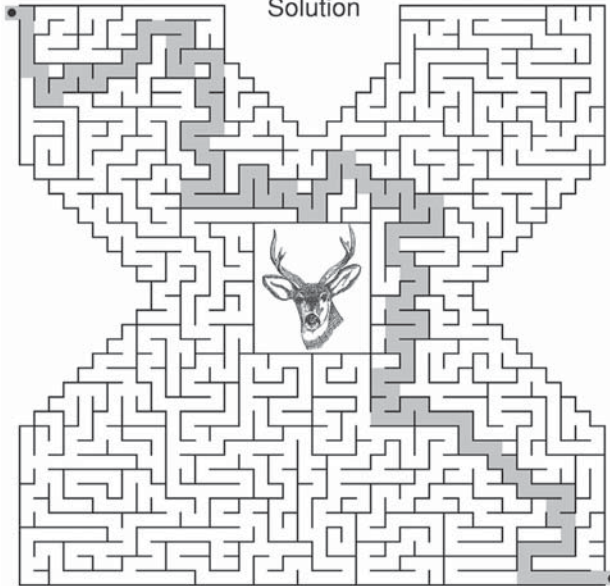
King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

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

Mega Maze

Solution



Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

Sticklers Answer

- 1. stripes: sprites, persist, priests, esprits
- 2. trainers: terrains, restrain, strainer
- 3. angered: enraged, grenade, derange
- 4. rubies: buries, bruise, busier

Americanisms

"Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood."

—Mister Rogers

Now Here's a Tip

by JoAnn Derson

- You can save dollars in the bathroom by installing low-flow showerheads. These days, there are several models that are earth-friendly but still give you a good showering experience. Always turn the water off while brushing your teeth, too!
- "While going through the junk drawers, I found about a million packets of assorted condiments. I

felt bad junking them, but I have no idea how old they are. I put an empty cup in the fridge, and now we'll toss new ones in there — and look to use them in lunches before they go bad." — T. in Ohio

- "Got a plastic item that needs a bit of scrubbing? Fill a tub with hot to warm water and a capful of sudsy ammonia. Cover your hands with

plastic dishwashing gloves, but add a pair of cotton gloves over top. Then, your hands are the scrubbers, and you can clean items like blinds in a flash." — F.L. in Missouri

- "My friends and I have a summer vegetable club. Each week one of us goes to the farmer's market and buys several varieties of fruits and vegetables. Then we split it up among us. Since many of us are in single households, it makes getting a small amount of fresh produce possible, and it's always a great surprise to see what we'll be getting for the week." — C.C. in Virginia
- "We are just beginning to formulate our end-of-year plans with family. Our rule of thumb: for every three days, plan no more than two activities. This way, there is down time for either a spontaneous activity or to just relax catching up with friends and family." — D.W. in Florida

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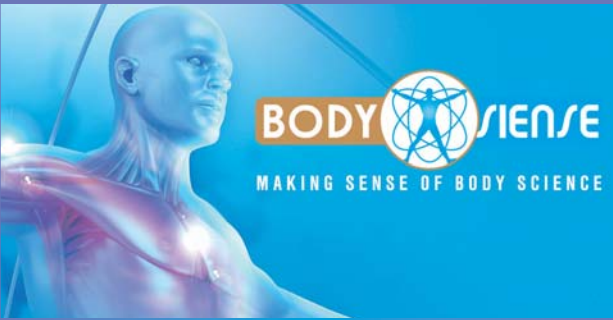
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Strange but True

by Samantha Weaver

• It was French playwright Albert Guinon who made the following sage observation: "There are people who, instead of listening to what is being said to them, are already listening to what they are going to say themselves."

• You may not be surprised to learn that, according to a poll conducted by The Associated Press, Americans hate math twice as much as any other subject.

• A study published in 2008 showed that the price of a pain medication had an effect on its efficacy. In the study people were given placebo pills, some at the regular price and some at a discounted price. Those who paid full price for the medication reported more relief than those who paid less.

• During Elizabethan times, it was customary in England for a wife to wear her wedding ring on her thumb.

• It seems no one can adequately explain the reason why women tend to strike matches away from themselves, while men tend to strike them toward themselves.

• Dominique Bouhours, a Frenchman who lived in the 17th century, was a priest, an essayist and a grammarian. The love of language may have been closest to his heart, though; it's been reported that the final words he uttered on his deathbed were, "I am about to — or I am going to — die; either expression is used."

• Those who study such things say that sea slugs have 25,000 teeth.

• The town of Waco, Texas, has an entire museum dedicated to the popular soda Dr Pepper. Even more surprising is the fact that it gets more than a hundred visitors a day, on average.

Thought for the Day: "It's hard to be religious when certain people are never incinerated by bolts of lightning." — Bill Watterson

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9:30 am. - "Youth & Open Holstein"

11:00 am. - 2:00 pm. "Agricultural Scavenger Hunt"

3:00 pm. - "Children's Pedal Tractor Pull"

5:00 pm. - "Children's Pedal Tractor Pull"

7:00 pm. - "Demolition Derby"

7:30 pm. & 9:30 pm. - "Lonesome Dove" (Country)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18th

9:00 am. - "Open & Youth Horse Show" in Horse Corral

11:00 am. - "Soccer Kick"

1:00 pm. - "Talent Show"

4:00 pm. - "Children's Rodeo"

6:00 pm. - "4 Wheel Drive Truck Pull"

7:30 pm. & 9:30 pm. - "Grit N Grace"

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19th

9:00 am. - "Open & Youth Gymkana Horse Show" in Horse Corral

11:00 am. - "Tractor Pull"

11:00 am. - "Hoop Shoot"

1:00 pm. - "Bug Country Showdown"

1:00 pm. - "Milking Contest" in the Ag Awareness Bldg.

3:00 pm. - "Farmyard Olympics" in the Livestock Arena

4:00 pm. - "Children's Rodeo"

6:00 pm. - "Children's Power Wheel Demo Derby"

Following Showdown - "Fritz Polka Band"

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14th

3:00 pm - Opening Ceremonies - Memorial Park

4:00 pm - Gates Officially Open

5:30 pm - Small Animal Judging at the Small Animal Bldg

6:30 pm - "Jr. Miss, Little Mister, Little Miss Pageants"

8:30 pm - "Princess, Prince, & Queen Pageants"

10:30 pm. - Fireworks

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15th

9:30 am. - Youth & Open Colored Dairy Breed Show

10:00 am. - 4:00 P.M. Children's Day (Rides open at noon) - 1/2 Price for Adults & Seniors till 4:00 P.M.

11:00 am. - 2:00 P.M. - Senior Bingo

5:00 pm. - Kiddie Firematics

6:00 pm. - Brookfield Garden Tractor Pull

7:30 pm. & 9:30 pm. - The Van Dells

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16th

9:30 am. - "Youth & Open Beef Show" followed by "Meat Goat Show"

10:00 am. - 4:00 pm. "Children's Day" (Rides open at noon)

1:00 pm. - "ICE CREAM GIVEAWAY" - Sports Challenge

5:00 pm. - "Youth & Open Sheep Show"

5:00 pm. - "Kiddie Firematics"

7:00 pm. - "Demolition Derby with Vans and Trucks"

7:30 pm. & 9:30 pm. - Voice Finalist "Curtis Grimes" (Country)

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or Thursday AUGUST 16th - 12:00p.m. - 4:00p.m.

or Sunday AUGUST 19th - 1:00p.m. - 7:00p.m.

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Wednesday AUGUST 15th - 10:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

Thursday AUGUST 16th - 10:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

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Creative ways to thank teachers

by Katie Workman, Associated Press

A great teacher is a gift that can last a lifetime. So how to show our thanks?

Many teachers say their favorite gifts are home-made. Presents that speak to a child's genuine feelings for the teacher, or reflect the teacher's interests, are the most authentic. Time and thought trump money.

Gifts can be from your individual child, or something a whole class can participate in.

Oh, and don't forget to also show gratitude to your school's security folks, kitchen staff, administration, maintenance crew ... all the people who make the school tick.

At my kids' school in New York City, a small group of parents created a Cookie of the Month initiative. Every month, a couple of grades are asked to bake a specific type of cookie, which changes month to month. Parents and kids can volunteer to bake a batch,

and then the cookies are collected in the cafeteria on a certain day and distributed in cookie jars and cute containers with signage saying thanks. The baking responsibility is distributed among all grades throughout the year, and many parents and kids take the opportunity to bake together.

Some other ideas:

Crafty projects

Older kids can make tote bags with appreciative messages written in permanent markers, or decorate the classroom door with notes and artwork as a surprise. Little kids can create a tote bag with, say, handprints in non-washable paint; word clouds with words and phrases that the kids associate with their teacher; thumbprints collected on a sturdy poster board that can be turned into a bouquet of balloons or leaves on a tree.

"I loved when my students put together a 'Thank You' teacher booklet where all the children completed a page and the book was bound

with a spiral type of binding," says Kathleen Casey, who teaches second grade in Fairlawn, N.J. "My favorite all-time gift was an original superhero comic book starring me as the superhero who saves the world by teaching important lessons!"

Pam London, a preschool art teacher in Springfield, VA, said, "One year a family gave me an envelope with a bunch of Polaroids of their child with her favorite creations from class. I just loved that."

It's simple to have each kid in the class make a card, and bind them together with a pretty ribbon.

Anna Moshura, an assistant principal at the Brooklyn School of Inquiry in New York and a former science and kindergarten teacher, fondly remembers receiving a personalized calendar adorned with student artwork and class pictures.

A good old-fashioned handwritten note, draw-

ing or other type of artwork would also make a teacher happy, she says.

Individually inspired items

If you know your teacher loves a particular smoothie or coffee drink, get a gift card from his or her favorite place. Keep the amount small if it's from a single child, but if the whole class is chipping in, then you can think about larger purchases, like a certificate for a pottery class or new running shoes.

Antonia Fusco, an elementary school reading teacher in New York City, appreciated receiving "a charm bracelet with different trinkets, symbolizing my different likes and interests."

Or consider a ball jar of a teacher's favorite color pencil (with a cute label), a baseball cap from her favorite team or a mug with a funny on-point saying.

Add a personal note to



any store-bought item.

Gifts that last

Name a star for a teacher, adopt a penguin in their name from the World Wildlife Fund, or give a personalized leather book cover to the teacher who likes to journal.

"Perennial plants are lovely gifts and help me to remember my students," Casey added. "I've been gifted tiny rose bushes over the years that are now enormous!"

And there's no statute of limitations on saying thanks. Jennifer Preuss, a first-grade teacher in Encino, CA, recently received an email from a mom whose son she had taught five years earlier. The boy was asked during an interview for mid-

dle school which four people he would most like to have dinner with, and he included his first-grade teacher. She was delighted to know her teaching had made such a lasting impact.

Homemade food

A prettily wrapped quick bread, a small basket of cookies, jams and other preserves, herbed vinegars, homemade granola — there are many delicious ways to express appreciation for a teacher.

Moshura loves getting baked goods from students, sometimes with the recipe attached.

Finally, you can always go with the classic shiny red apple (a hand-picked one is a good call)

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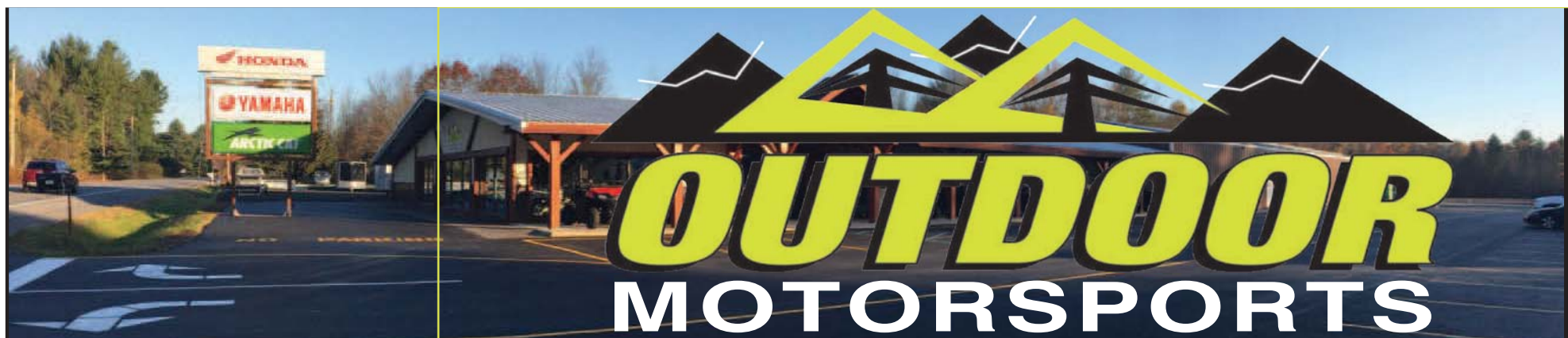
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