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Confess your trespasses to one another, and pfray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. James 5:16











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MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR Letter To The Editor

an executive order requiring New Yorkers to wear a mask when they cannot comply with social distancing guidelines, you should really be wearing one, following your own pen stroke rule. Some citizens do not take easily to being forced to do things when those that have issued such rules are blatantly disregarding their own rule. Having lived in other states and following what is happening across the country, the governor of Vermont, Phil Scott, at least wears the mask in public and is shown wearing it before and after any of his press conferences. You have been granted the honor of being an elected leader and leaders need to lead by example and you, sir, are not leading by example. Along with the mocking "go get an essential job" and other such comments, it is fanning discontent among concerned citizens that perhaps you are abusing the power of being an elected governor. In my own locality I am watching businesses struggle, seeing citizens so concerned with what the future holds that it is causing anxiety and other stresses and seems to be worse than the actual virus.

We can come through this and beat this, but we cannot lose our principles

Governor Cuomo, as you have signed in achieving this. We are a showcase to the world that freedom can and will prevail even during the hardest of circumstances. Yes, this is something that may be once in a lifetime ordeal and yes, some of the facts we were given were not accurate and the concern to protect the most at-risk among us is needed, but you are damaging the very thing that has kept us together and will help us win this fight - rule of law. The man that you replaced thought he was above the rules as well and you replaced him. To quote Ronald Reagan, "If we lose freedom here, there is no place to escape to." I feel we are approaching a point that our "freedom" is just a word and that you, sir, feel you know better than the individual that will do what is right for himself and others if given all the correct information and options. Have trust in us, and follow your own rule and you may see more people of New York respect you for it.

> Sincerely, Ian Hitchener, a concerned citizen for preserving freedoms Fort Plain, NY



The Sew Busy Quilt Guild donates **Memory Bears to MVH loved ones**

GLOVERSVILLE - At Mountain Valley Hospice, we knew we wanted to do more to preserve the memory of our loved ones. In February, we launched a Memory Bear program in collaboration with the Sew Busy Quilt Guild. Each bear created has its own unique story that is sure to melt your heart.

The first bear delivered

went to Gary W., who lost his partner in crime, Denny H. The couple shared amazing times together traveling in their renovated bus before Denny got sick. The bear means a great deal to Gary, as he admired Denny and her artistic abilities. Years back, she designed dolls to resemble their adventurous sides.

The second bear was made in memory of Mary Mary's daughter, D. Maryann V., shared with me that the bright and cheerful shirt used to create the bear was something her mother loved to wear. The bear also

features multi-color buttons, which is a reminder of Mary's fun-loving spirit! Maryann is pictured with MD (the bear) and her mother's portrait.

These Memory Bears were made with love by the Sew Busy Quilt Guild. We cannot thank the guild enough for choosing MVH as one of their charitable projects! Be sure to check out their other work on their website, sites.google.com/site/sewbusyquilt/home.



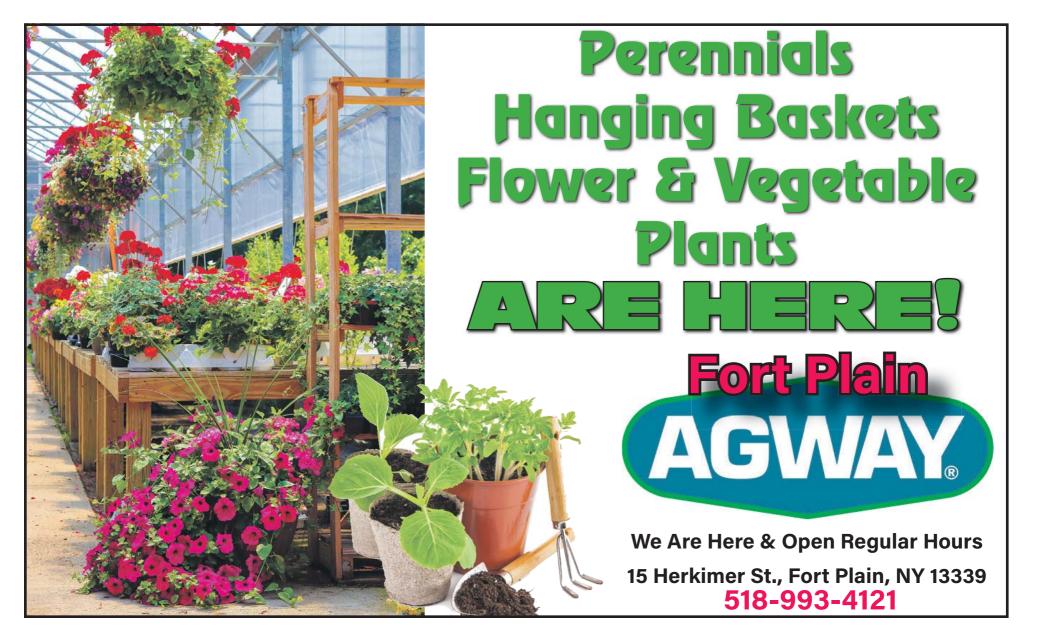
The first bear delivered went to Gary W. in memory of his partner in crime, Denny H.



Years ago Denny designed dolls to resemble their adventurous sides.



Maryann is pictured with MD (the bear) and her mother's portrait.



HUD allocates second wave of relief funds with nearly \$165 million going to New York Funds can be used for personal PPE, childcare costs, travel costs to receive testing, among other actions

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson announced his department will allocate \$164,452,148 in COVID-19 relief funding to help low-income New Yorkers residing in public housing. The funding, made available by the CARES Act legislation President Trump signed into law, will be awarded to Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) across New York.

"As a result of President Trump's strong leadership, we were able to secure necessary funding through the CARES Act to help keep Americans living in public housing safe through these unprecedented times," said Sec. Carson. "HUD has worked hard to ensure that these funds will reach Public Housing Authorities quickly and efficiently, so they are well equipped to protect their residents and staff as we all work together as a nation to combat this invisible enemy."

"This administration recognizes the severity of the COVID-19 crisis and the crippling impact of the virus in New York and New Jersey. That is why President Trump has taken swift action to roll out a second wave of public housing funding to assist impacted residents and staff," said Lynne Patton, HUD Regional Administrator for New York and New Jersey. "This comprehensive approach not only provides funding to respond to current conditions, but also allows for future preparation and prevention, to ensure our residents will always feel safe in their homes."

These funds will be allocated through the Public Housing Operating Fund and can be used by PHAs

Calendar of events

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 CONCERNS ABOUT THE CORONA-VIRUS (COVID-19) HAVE CAUSED THE CANCELLATION OF MANY MEETINGS. PLEASE CONFIRM ALL MEETINGS WITH THE HOST LOCATIONS BEFORE TRAVELLING TO THE MEETING LOCATION.

May 23

Bicycle Basket with Bev. Postponed. Contact Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site 518.829.7516.

Geocache Challenge Kick Off at Saratoga-Capital Region NYS Parks. For more information on the game, check out Geocaching.com.

May 26

PRISM Presentation 6:30 p.m. at Enders House. Free. Contact Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site 518.829.7516.

June dates

Putman Porch Music. Thursdays at 6 p.m. throughout the month of June at Putman Canal Store, Yankee Hill Lock on Queen Anne Rd., Amsterdam. Contact Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site 518.829.7516.

June 6

National Trails Day event at Aqueduct Boat Launch, Schoharie Crossing off Rt. 5S. Contact Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site 518.829.7516.

Village of Ames Museum Open to Visitors. Book sale. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Contact 518.673.5820 or f@ amesmuseum or www.amesmuseum.weebly.com

Conference dates moved to September

The American Revolution Mohawk Valley Conference moved to Sept. 10-13. Register at https://tinyurl.com/vmvyuay or email brianm248420@hotmail. com or call 518.774.5669

July 11

Village of Ames Museum Open to Visitors. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Contact 518.673.5820 or f@amesmuseum or www.amesmuseum.weebly.com

Schoharie Crossing Discovery Day at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site. Visit nysparks. com or call Schoharie Crossing at 518.829.7516, or email Schoharie-Crossing@parks.ny.gov.

July 31

Music Social — Box On Polka Band 7-10 p.m. band (doors open 5:30 p.m.) at Amsterdam Elks Lodge 101, 8 Fourth Ave., Amsterdam, NY. For more information, call Michelle Egelston at 518.339.2260 or the Amsterdam Elks Lodge at 518.842.6363 or check their Facebook page. Polka Night. Polish Food. \$10.

August 7

Music Social — Georgie Wonders Band 7-10 p.m. band (doors open 5:30 p.m.) at Amsterdam Elks Lodge 101, 8 Fourth Ave., Amsterdam, NY. For more information, call Michelle Egelston at 518.339.2260 or the Amsterdam Elks Lodge at 518.842.6363 or check their Facebook page. Big Band. Put on your dancing shoes. \$10.

August 15

Village of Ames Museum is Open to Visitors. Book Sale. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Contact 518.673.5820 or f@amesmuseum or www.amesmuseum.weebly. com Village of Ames Museum Sum-

September 19

mers End Festival. 5K run/walk begins at 9 a.m. The festival is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come browse through the vendor spaces and tour the museum. Contact 518.673.5820 or f@ amesmuseum or www.amesmuseum.weebly.com

September 25

Music Social — Grand Central Sta tion 7-10 p.m. band (doors open 5:30 p.m.) at Amsterdam Elks Lodge 101, 8 Fourth Ave., Amsterdam, NY. For more information, call Michelle Egelston at 518.339.2260 or the Amsterdam Elks Lodge at 518.842.6363 or check their Facebook page. Back by popular demand. \$10.

October 3

Village of Ames Museum Open to Visitors. Book sale. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Contact 518.673.5820 or f@ amesmuseum or www.amesmuseum.weebly.com

November 7

Village of Ames Museum Open to Visitors. 9 a.m. - noon. Museum closes for the season at the end of the day. Contact 518.673.5820 or f@amesmuseum or www.amesmuseum.weebly.com

December 2

Christmas Tree Lighting. Village of Ames tree lighting at 6 p.m. in front of the Village of Ames Museum. Refreshments to follow at the fire station.

for the following actions:

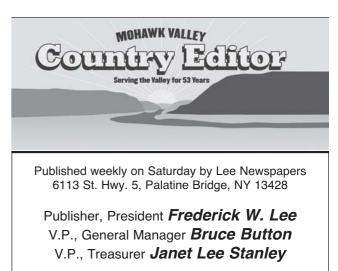
Prepare for a Coronavirus Outbreak

• Creation or update of infectious disease outbreak plan

• Sourcing and purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) for PHA staff

• Coordination with providers of services needed

HUD 5



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HUD from 4

to support residents as a result of coronavirus, including cost of delivery of goods, supplies and equipment

• Coordination with local health service providers for activities including the development or provision of guidance to staff or residents, travel for testing or other reasons related to coronavirus

• Childcare costs for residents so that they can continue to work, and childcare costs for staff performing essential functions (as defined at the state/local), to the extent they would not have incurred otherwise, and

• Other reasonable expenses related to preparing for the coronavirus

Prevent a Coronavirus Outbreak

• Costs related to maintaining adequate social distancing, including modifying or limiting access to communal spaces, increasing service hours to prevent crowding in waiting areas or any other costs incurred to ensure adequate distance among staff and residents

• Costs of delivering supplies so that staff or residents can shelter in place, thereby reducing exposure to the greatest number of people

• Direct costs related to limiting the spread of the coronavirus, including travel costs for testing or other preventive health measures related to coronavirus

• Expenses of isolating people suspected of being exposed or those at highrisk of serious complications if infected (elderly residents and residents with underlying conditions)

• Costs of protecting residents (particularly high-risk residents) from exposure from interaction with PHA staff and vice versa, and

• Payment of salaries of PHA staff unable to work because of the coronavirus public health restrictions (e.g., office management staff who cannot go into the office and cannot perform work remotely, or payment of full salaries of PHA staff forced to work part-time because of lack of child care)

Respond to a Coronavirus

Outbreak

• Expenses of caring for PHA staff and residents who have tested positive, but do not require immediate hospitalization, including payment for increases in sick leave allowances for PHA staff; physical, personnel or security costs incurred to limit movement: costs to safely transport residents that tested positive to a quarantine facility; and costs of supporting residents in quarantine such as health-related supplies (e.g., masks and cleaning supplies)

• Expenses to safely transport residents/staff in need of medical attention

• Expenses incurred because of coronavirus restrictions impacting PHA operations (e.g., paying for transportation expenses for PHA staff who rely on public transit that is no longer available)

• Costs to facilitate and coordinate with local schools and local governments receiving funds from the Department of Education for the education of students in public housing households

• Internet connection infrastructure

• Tablets or other lowcost computers for students, and

• Other reasonable expenses incurred while responding to the corona-virus

In addition to the funding, HUD is announcing that PHAs may use Operating Funds and Capital Funds provided through prior acts for eligible Operating Fund and Capital Fund activities or for coronavirus purposes.

For more information on HUD's response to the coronavirus pandemic and the actions the department has taken, visit hud.gov/coronavirus. PHAs across the nation have jumped into action to help assist their tenants and their communities during this unprecedented time.

Local public housing allocations have been announced as follows:

Utica Housing Authority: \$533,185
Herkimer Housing

Authority: \$51,323 • Gloversville Housing

Authority: \$27,549 • Amsterdam Housing Authority: \$144,401

Moments in Time – The History Channel

• On May 17, 1792, a group of 24 traders gather in lower Manhattan to work out the regulations of the speculative market. The result was the Buttonwood Agreement, a two-sentence contract that gave birth to the New York Stock Exchange.

• On May 14, 1904, the first Olympic Games to be held in the United States open in St. Louis. The 1904 Games were initially awarded to Chicago, but were given to St. Louis to be staged in connection with the St. Louis World Exposition. However, the Games were overshadowed by the world fair.

• On May 12, 1925, a Philadelphia radio station broadcasts the first all-star radio program featuring film actors and actresses. Sound films had not yet debuted, and it marked the first time that most listeners had heard the voices of film stars like Lillian Gish and Marion Davies.

• On May 15, 1942, a bill creates the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAACs) in the U.S. Army, granting women official military status in a wide variety of roles around the world. The 16,000 women who joined the early WAACs would not receive veterans' benefits until 1980.

• On May 13, 1956, Gene Autry's musical variety show, "Gene Autry's Melody Ranch," airs its final broadcast after 16 years. The show featured short skits about cowboys and rustlers, along with musical



numbers by Autry, "America's singing cowboy."

• On May 16, 1975, Japanese mountaineer Junko Tabei becomes the first woman to reach the summit of Mt. Everest. In 1988, Stacy Allison became the first American woman to successfully climb Everest.

• On May 11, 1987, Klaus Barbie, the former Nazi Gestapo chief of German-occupied Lyon, France, during World War II, goes on trial, charged with 177 crimes against humanity. Barbie sent 7,500 French Jews and French Resistance partisans to concentration camps and executed some 4,000 others.

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Gillibrand introduces legislation to create direct supply chain between farms and food banks

On May 5, U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, introduced legislation to address disruptions in the food supply chain caused by the coronavirus pandemic and directly connect farms to food banks. As restaurants, hotels, schools and other food service entities ceased operations to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, reports emerged

that millions of pounds of produce have been left to rot. Meanwhile, food banks across the country are facing unprecedented demand, as millions of newly unemployed Americans now face food insecurity. The Food Bank Access to Farm Fresh Produce Act would provide needed support to food banks as they continue to serve the surge of jobless Americans while also supporting strug-







gling farmers who lack buyers for their produce.

"Like many Americans dealing with the economic fallout from the COVID-19 outbreak, farmers in New York and across the country are struggling to make ends meet," said Sen. Gillibrand. "The Food Bank Access to Farm Fresh Produce Act will not only provide them with a new chain of potential buyers, but it will put money directly in their pockets by cutting out middlemen and will deliver fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables to millions of Americans facing food insecurity. This important bill will stimulate the farm economy and strengthen the health of Americans. I'm proud to introduce this legislation and will fight for its inclusion in the next relief package."

More than 30 million Americans are currently jobless due to the coronavirus pandemic and many are struggling to put food on the table. According to Feeding America, a leading hunger relief organization, demand at food banks has surged by 70%. Today, with food banks facing mile-long lines, the need for resources to feed hungry Americans is greater than ever. The Food Bank Access to Farm Fresh Produce Act would meet this demand by giving food banks the power to pur-

chase excess specialty crops - including fruits, vegetables, tree nuts and dried fruits, which are easily stored and processed by food banks directly from farmers.

MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

Gillibrand's proposed Food Bank Access to Farm Fresh Produce Act would provide \$8 billion in block grants to food banks in the top vegetable and fruit producing states. Food banks will be able to use the funds to purchase fresh produce directly from farmers in New York, which is the 15th largest vegetable and fruit producing state, and other states. They will also be able to use the funding to pay for distribution, processing and additional staff needed to meet increased demand.

As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Gillibrand has prioritized support for farmers throughout the COVID-19 crisis. In April, she announced the Relief for America's Small Farmers Act, which would provide economic relief for small farmers suffering from massive financial losses due to reduced demand and supply chain disruptions. In addition, she has repeatedly urged the administration to support dairy producers and provide assistance under the CARES Act for local food producers who have experienced losses due to the coronavirus outbreak.



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Pastor Jan Markle Sunday Service 9:00am

Bethesda Fellowship

34 S. Division St.

St. Johnsville, NY 13452

518-568-2678

Summer Schedule

Sunday Worship 10:00am

Cherry Valley

Assembly of God

607-264-3306

Sundays 9:30am

Christian Church of

518-922-9088

Pastor Brett Popp

day School (adult & children) 10a Worship 11am, Sunday Eve. Prayer 6:30pm, irs. Eve. of Encouragement 6:30p christianchurchcharlestonfourcorner:

PO Box 896

Rev. Mark Ioset

315-858-1553

Service: Sunday 9:15am

26 Moyer St., Canajoharie 518-673-3440

3316 State Route 29 W

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Pastor, Rev. Mark Fowler

orner of Cliff & Walnut Stro Canajoharie, NY 13317

(518) 993-1016

Pastor Wally Braemer

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& All the Time God is Good

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7274 St. Hwy. 10, Ames

Currytown

Reformed Church 29 St. Hwy. 162, Sprakers 518-922-8422

518-705-2201 Sunday School 9:15am Worship Service 10:00am

Dolgeville

315-429-9142

829

Adult Sunday Worship Serv

Church School: Sunday 10:30a



Sacred Heart

Catholic Church

111 3rd Ave., Tribes Hill

518-829-7301

Mass Saturday

4:00pm

32 W. Main St., 32 W. Main St., St. Johnsville, NY (next to NBT Bank) 518-568-3007 Church 518-568-2405 Parsonage *Rev. David Johnson* Surday Workin 10/2020

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Mc

Frevsbush United Christian Fellowship **Methodist Church** 3 Elm St., Dolgeville, NY 13329 Freysbush Rd., Fort Plain 518-842-1357 Rev. Cindy Leonard, Officiating Dr. Marvin Isum, Pastor Worship Sunday 10:30am Midweek Fellowship Tuesday 7pm www.dolgevillechristianfellowship.org Worship 9am, unday School 10am ALL ARE WELCOMI coffee hour to follow service National Kateri Tekakwitha

Shrine and Indian Museum

3636 St. Hwy. 5, PO Box 627

Fonda, NY 12068-0627

518-853-3646

sses: Sat. 4:30pm, Sun. rishrine.com www.kateris

Navigating automobile incentives and rebates

Purchasing a new car can be an exciting en-

deavor. Cars and trucks are among the most ex-

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TIRE SHOP

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Car & Truck Accessoriesone wants to spend more
than necessary. Getting
a good deal on a car or
truck may come down to
researching rebates and
incentives.
The online automo-
tive resource Edmunds.
com says incentives and

incentives. The online automotive resource Edmunds. com says incentives and rebates are used by automakers to spur sales of particularly slow-selling models. Incentives

and rebates also are used

pensive items a person

will buy over the course

of their lifetime, and no

to entice previous customers to stay loyal to a brand. Potential buyers who are aware of incentives and rebates are being offered can use that knowledge to negotiate lower prices on desired vehicles.

Here is a close look at some of the incentives that may be available. pass on these cost-cutting measure to customers, but many do just to move stock.

• **Cash-back rebate:** This well-known incentive is based on manufacturers offering cash rebates directly to customers when they make a purchase before a given date. Cash-back rebates subsidized leases based on a residual value that's much higher than the actual worth of the vehicle at term's end. Dealers are playing with the numbers to bring down the monthly payment and thereby make their vehicles seem more appealing. Real-CarTips says that sometimes dealerships will





are generally offered on models that may not be selling as well as manufacturers had hoped. Some rebates are rolled over from month to month until desired quotas have been met. Think of a rebate as a coupon of sorts applied to the cost of the vehicle.

Potential buyers who are aware of incentives and rebates are being offered can use that

knowledge to negotiate lower prices on desired vehicles.

• Dealer incentives:

Dealer incentives are fac-

tory-to-dealer offers that

reduce the true cost to

buy a vehicle from the

factory, according to

Cars.com. Dealers are

under no obligation to

• Low APR financing: With this incentive, dealerships offer low interest rates on vehicles financed through their preferred lenders. Rates may range from 0 - 5%. Keep in mind that buyers' credit scores need to be fairly high to qualify, and the low APR may only be on certain models.

• Lease specials: Customers who lease may find manufacturers often offer special lease programs through captive financing companies. These are apply cash-back rebates or financing incentives toward a lease instead of a financed vehicle.

• Bonus cash incentive: This type of incentive generally targets a specific demographic, such as recent college graduates or military personnel. These incentives are not widely advertised, so it may be necessary to inquire about what is being offered.

• Government rebates: Some savings are realized not through the manufacturer or dealer, but from government rebate programs. For example, tax credits may be available to buyers who purchase cars that run on alternative fuels or hybrids.

There are many ways for savvy consumers to save money when buying new vehicles.

What to do in the wake of canceled events

Events have been canceled or post- these guidelines.

poned across the globe in the wake of the outbreak of COVID-19. This has caused a disruption to not only commercial events like concerts and sporting events, but personal gatherings as well. Any party with a large number of potential guests has to be reconsidered. This includes graduation parties, weddings and birthdays. People facing the cancellation of such events can follow • Speak to vendors to find out if cancellations can occur with no penalties. Many hotels and other travel services are waiving fees for cancellations, or allowing bookings to be rescheduled at no

additional cost.
Try to think of some alternative dates for events like weddings and graduation parties as soon as possible. There is no way to accurately predict the

in the soil.

path that COVID-19 will take, nor put a firm date regular life can resume, but discussing alternative dates with vendors with whom you're already under contract may put you at the top of the list when gatherings are once again allowed.

• Reach out to guests to explain that your plans are fluid. Expect that a good portion of guests, even those who already committed to attend, may not be able to make rescheduled events. Speak with vendors about fluctuating head-counts in the wake of COVID-19.

• Be patient and keep an open minded about events. These are unprecedented times and many people are learning as they go. Rescheduling events when the threat has subsided may cause a bottleneck effect with service providers. Flexibility and patience can help make reschedule less stressful.

Plan ahead by looking back

as they would mature sooner and bloom earlier than direct sowing of seeds. We planned ahead and saved more space in our vegetable beds for more flowers.

By taking the time to

look back and ask yourself questions, and not be afraid to experiment, you will have more garden successes going forward. Check out these help-

ful resources on the University of Vermont Ex-

tension Master Gardener website at go.uvm.edu/ garden-resources.

Bonnie Kirn Donahue is a UVM Extension Master Gardener and landscape designer from central Vermont.



by Bonnie Kirn Donahue

Planning your vegetable garden doesn't have to be daunting. By starting with your own observations and being open to experimentation, you can develop a garden plan that takes into consideration what you have learned in previous years.

First look back at what happened in your vegetable garden last year. Did your peppers never fully ripen? Was your zucchini overcrowded? Did you feel overwhelmed by all of the tomatoes you had to can or freeze because you couldn't let yourself abandon any of the seedlings you started?

Taking notes about what went well and what you wished had gone better will give you valuable perspective about your garden and gardening habits.

For example, last year my husband and I started seeds for tomatoes from a seed pack we picked up on a whim. Our tomato crop was terrible! The tomatoes were mealy, the bottoms were cat-faced and they were unpleasant to look at and eat.

The previous year we carefully started varieties that a local farmer recommended. They were disease-resistant and tested in our local area, great advice when selecting all your garden crops. We staked and mulched them, following good integrated pest management (IPM) practices to minimize disease and pest problems without the use of pesticides. That year we had an amazing tomato crop.

While annual environmental factors such as amount of rain, sun and temperature fluctuations are generally out of our control, we learned from this experiment that taking time to select the variety and characteristics of our plants goes a long way toward having a better crop.

Reflective observations like this are key to how you approach future garden planning. After making a list of what worked and what didn't, start a new list of the crops you want to grow this year. Then lay out your garden on paper to ensure that you have room for everything.

Crowded plants will compete for sunlight, nutrients and water and be more susceptible to disease, so planning will help with proper spacing. You also don't want taller plants such as corn or sunflowers shading out shorter plants, so think about the direction of the sun.

Consider the size of the plant when mature and its growth habit. Sprawling plants such as squash and pumpkins need more room and may work best on the edge of a garden, for example. Selecting disease-resistant cultivars and incorporating IPM practices will help reduce the need for Two years ago we experimented with annual zinnias (Zinnia elegans) in our vegetable beds. We sowed the seeds directly in the soil about four weeks after the last frost. By summer's end (about 90 days later) we had

pest management. Crop

rotation is important to

help minimize diseases

and pests that overwinter

lovely, though short-lived, blooms that added much pleasure to our late-season vegetable garden. Based on our notes, we decided the following year to add more annual flowers, including marigolds,

ers, including marigolds, nasturtiums and sweet alyssum, in our vegetable garden and have the blooms last as long as possible. This was both for our enjoyment and for the pollinators and beneficial insects that require continuous blooms throughout the season.

We knew that purchasing zinnia seedlings from our local greenhouse or starting seedlings ourselves would give us more time to enjoy the flowers





Republican/Conservative Primary Vote Absentee or In Person ROSE 2020 Paid for by Judge Rose for Family Cour 10 • May 16, 2020

MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR



MLS 202013905: This is the home you have been looking for; a spacious four bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home even has a beautiful handicap accessible in-law apartment. Open floor plan makes it perfect for entertaining and a gas-fireplace makes it cozy as well. Step outside this winter and warm up in this new hot tub. In the summertime relax on your deck and cool off in the in-ground pool. Hidden in your private backyard is a beautiful 6-stall horse barn. Let's not forget about this awesome location too! Only 10 minutes from the NYS Thruway and nly a mile and a half from shops and restaurants. Make an appointment today to tour this amazing property! **\$365,900**



MLS 201936206: 1.2 Acres with spectacular iews of the Adirondacks to build your Adirondac home on with lake access from Pecks Lakes Sun-rise Bay. This land has a few improvements - the driveway is in place and the building site has been leveled. There are certified engineer plans for both

the building site and septic system. Peck Lake is located in the southern Adirondacks with the Adirondack Park in your backyard with all the wildlife you could ask for. Access to everything a person would want - shopping, fishing, hiking, boating (restrictions apply), golf and lets not forget snowmobiling! \$109,900



MLS 201929076: This very tillable land has 35 to 40 of the 43 acres that are tillable. Goes past the power lines. Nice land good state of cultivation. Terrain is gentle-nia crown with 310 road frontage. Very tiny stream runs through small part of it. Owner gets rental on having pasture. \$86,000



MLS 202013993: THIS IS A MUST SEE!!! Newly painted (2019), fully remodeled (2013) Colonial with country charm to make you feel at home. Spacious living area with large wood burning fireplace, formal dining, stainless steel kitchen, 1/2 bath and sunporch on first floor Three bedrooms and full bath on second and a BONUS room (could be bedroom or craft play room on third floor (endless possibilities) Detached garage is connected to house by unde ground tunnel. The corner lot is private and

nicely landscaped, \$224,900

MLS 202016657: Enjoy 50 ft of direct lakefront on

the quietest part of the lake. Close to the channel

which will allow you the use of both East & West Caroga Lakes. Cottage is fully furnished and

sleeps 8 or more people. Glass enclosed front

porch facing the lake. Open porch facing the road

Garage to store all your outdoor toys. Relax by the

fire or watch the sunsets over the lake sitting on

vour dock. \$189.090

MLS 202012776: Priced to sell!! This cute hom

is move-in ready but is priced for you to make it

our own. It features a huge kitchen, a large living

room and dining room for entertaining,

2 bedrooms with an additional small room upstairs that would make a great office or cozy

edroom, two enclosed porches and a small yard

Roof is only five years old. \$39,900



MLS 202015335: Beautiful, 2-story home located just outside the village limits. The large back yard above ground pool and detached, 2-stall garage with a summer kitchen and 1/2 bath make it idea for entertaining! Open kitchen and living room with stone fireplace. The kitchen has beautiful

stonework, wood cabinets, and granite counter tops. Hardwood floors, formal dining room, and enclosed porches make this property a great home. \$125,000

MLS 202011478: 2-story, up and down 2 family

located across the street from the bike path

Exterior is vinvl siding and up-dated windows

st floor is a 1 bedroom apartment and 2nd floor i

nterior needs updating. Includes the lot to the right

wine bar or restaurant. Back section of building

could be used as a tasting room or a great venue

so creative? Buy this as a turn-key business

The Indoor Marketplace, which sells products

rom local vendors. Second floor is a 3-bedroom

apartment that is currently rented for \$750 per

be easily turned into another apartment.

Separate utilities. Newer electrical service

and windows. \$185,000

MI S

201932716

Gorgeous renovated

commercial

in downtown

Johnstown.

This 3-story

building has

endless poten

tial. First-floor

would be an

ideal locatior

for a brewerv

of the house for parking (sbl 63.62-1-3). **\$42,000**

a 2 bedroom apartment. Separate utilities.



MLS 202011767: Two-family home located on a nice residential street in the village of St. Johnsville. The work on the outside has been done for you, the interior needs TLC but with some work could make a great home for an owner occupant or income property for investors. Each unit is 3 bedrooms/1 bath. \$35,000



MLS 202013101: This charming Victorian home located in the quaint village of St. Johnsville is filled with character and potential. It features 3 large bedrooms and 2 baths, hardwood floors, beautiful built-in cabinets, two driveways for plenty of parking, a garage with an attached shed for plenty of storage and so much more. Schedule a showing today! **\$75,000**



MLS 201933928: Relax on the large front porch on and an office on the second floor - walk up to

room has a lot of natural light with french doors leading to the entrance hallway. Hardwood floors throughout the home, a bath and a half is a nice feature. Formal Dining room with a large coat closet. Kitchen is smaller but has been updated vith new cabinets. The apartment is all on the first floor with a living room, one bedroom, kitchen and a laundry area. Newer shingled roof and vinyl siding. Full walkout basement to the backyard and

warm evenings! The main home has 4 bedrooms a full attic to store your extra things. $\dot{\mbox{Living}}$

a two car garage. **\$114,900**







country home with master bedroom and full bath down, family room and additional 2 bedrooms with full bath up. House is nestled by a creek and comes with 2 sources of heat, central air, and fully applianced. It has a large heated workshop and ned enclosed patio. Check it out at \$119,999.

This home is subject to a short sale that is approved by the bank. Final selling price must be approved by the owner and lender. operty being sold as-is, seller will make no repairs

> MLS 201930871: Beautiful post & beam barn includes 60 acres, outbuildings, silo and a pond. An amazing view of the Mohawk Valley. This is an ideal spot to make your homestead. Water and electric on site Located a short drive to the Adirondacks, and an hour to Albany. Utica & Saratoga. \$129,000

MLS 202014321: Looking for a country home? Take a tour of this ranch home with an open concept on 7 acres. A bright new kitchen with updated appliances, large island and new sliding glass doors leading to the backyard. Living room with a picture window, 4 bedrooms and a lot of closet space throughout the home. 4th bedroom easily could be turned into a master bathroom or perfect for a nursery. Full basement could even be turned into additional living space. Pellet stove heats home nicely. 2-stall detached heated garage with work benches and new overhead garage doors. Drilled well with plenty of water and a brand new water



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May 16, 2020 • 11





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Tips for planting blueberries

A trip to the produce aisle at a local grocery store can unveil a host of healthy additions to anyone's diet. Such a jaunt also can raise eyebrows, as produce, particularly organic fruits and vegetables, can be very expensive. Consumers may feel helpless to corral the cost of healthy foods like fruits and vegetables, but all hope should not be lost. That's especially so for people willing to give gardening a try.

Blueberries are one of the healthiest foods people can eat. The USDA National Nutrient Database notes that blueberries, which are low in calories and high in fiber, are great sources of vitamins C, K and B6. However, organic blueberries can be among the most expensive foods in the produce aisle. Various factors, including where blueberries come from and whether or not they're organic, dictate their cost. But it's not uncommon to pay roughly \$4 for a sixounce package of organic blueberries. For some, such costs are prohibitive.

Growing blueberries in a home garden can save blueberry lovers substantial amounts of money while ensuring they reap all of the benefits of this highly nutritious and edible berry. The following are some tips novices can employ as they plant their first batch of blueberries.

• Consult a local garden center. The U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council recommends consulting a local garden center before planting blueberries. The professionals at such centers can recommend the best variety of blueberry to plant. That's an important first step, as the USHBC notes that farmers cultivate dozens of varieties of highbush blueberries across North America, Lowbush varieties also may be a gardener's best option depending on where he or she lives. A local garden center can help you determine which variety best suits your local climate.

• Plant where there is ample sun and well-drained soil. The roots of blueberry plants should remain moist throughout the growing season, so choose an area where the soil drains well. If that's hard to find, consider planting in raised beds or patio containers. In addition, the University of Minnesota Extension notes that blueberries require full sun, so plant in a spot where the blueberries will not be denied daily sunlight.

• Prepare the soil. Blueberries require acidic soil, so running a soil test prior to planting is a good idea. Speak with a local garden center about soil adjustments if the soil is unlikely to promote growth.

• Fertilize carefully. The USHBC notes that established blueberry plants will respond well to acid fertilizers. However, it's important not to overdo it, as blueberries are sensitive to overfertilization. Follow fertilization instructions and speak with local garden center professionals for advice.

• Be patient. The UME notes that plants won't bear much fruit in their first two to three years, and that harvests are bigger after five years. So patience is a virtue blueberry planters must embrace.



Eight garden tools for beginners

The right tool for the iob is essential to working safely and efficiently. This is as true in the workplace as it is in the garden.

Novice gardeners may not know where to begin in regards to which tools they need. The following are eight items that can serve as a solid foundation for beginning gardeners.

1. Gloves: Your hands will be working hard, so it pays to protect them from calluses, blisters, splinters, insects and dirt. Look for water-resistant gloves that are also breathable.

Hand pruners: 2. Hand pruners are essential for cutting branches, cleaning up shrubs, dead-heading flowers and various other tasks. Choose ergonomic, no-slip handles that will make work easier. Rust-resistant, nonstick blades also are handy.

3. Wheelbarrow: A wheelbarrow can transport gear to garden beds or tote dirt, leaves, rocks other materials and around the landscape. A good wheelbarrow is strong but light enough to

maneuver when full.

4. Loppers: Long-handled loppers will fit the bill for thick branches. The long handles provide leverage to cut through branches an inch or more in diameter.

5. Hand trowel: A hand trowel is a handy tool that lets you dig holes or unearth weeds. While shopping for a trowel, consider getting a hand-held garden fork, which can aerate soil and cut through roots.

6. Hose/watering can: Keeping gardens hydrated is part of ensuring their health. That makes a hose and a watering can two invaluable tools to have around. Invest in a lightweight, expandable hose if storage space is at a premium. An adjustable nozzle will enable you to customize the water flow as needed. A watering can is an easy way to tote water to hard-to-reach pots and containers.

7. Garden kneeler: Gardeners often bend and kneel while working in the soil. That puts pressure on the back and knees. A comfortable garden kneeler with memory foam or

one made from shock-absorbing material can reduce aches and pains.

8. Garden hoe: Gar-

den hoes till soil, remove weeds and perform many other tasks. A garden hoe can be used along with a full-sized shovel, trowel and garden rake. This list is just the tip

of the garden tool iceberg.

Visit a garden center and speak with a professional about other tools that can be added to the mix.

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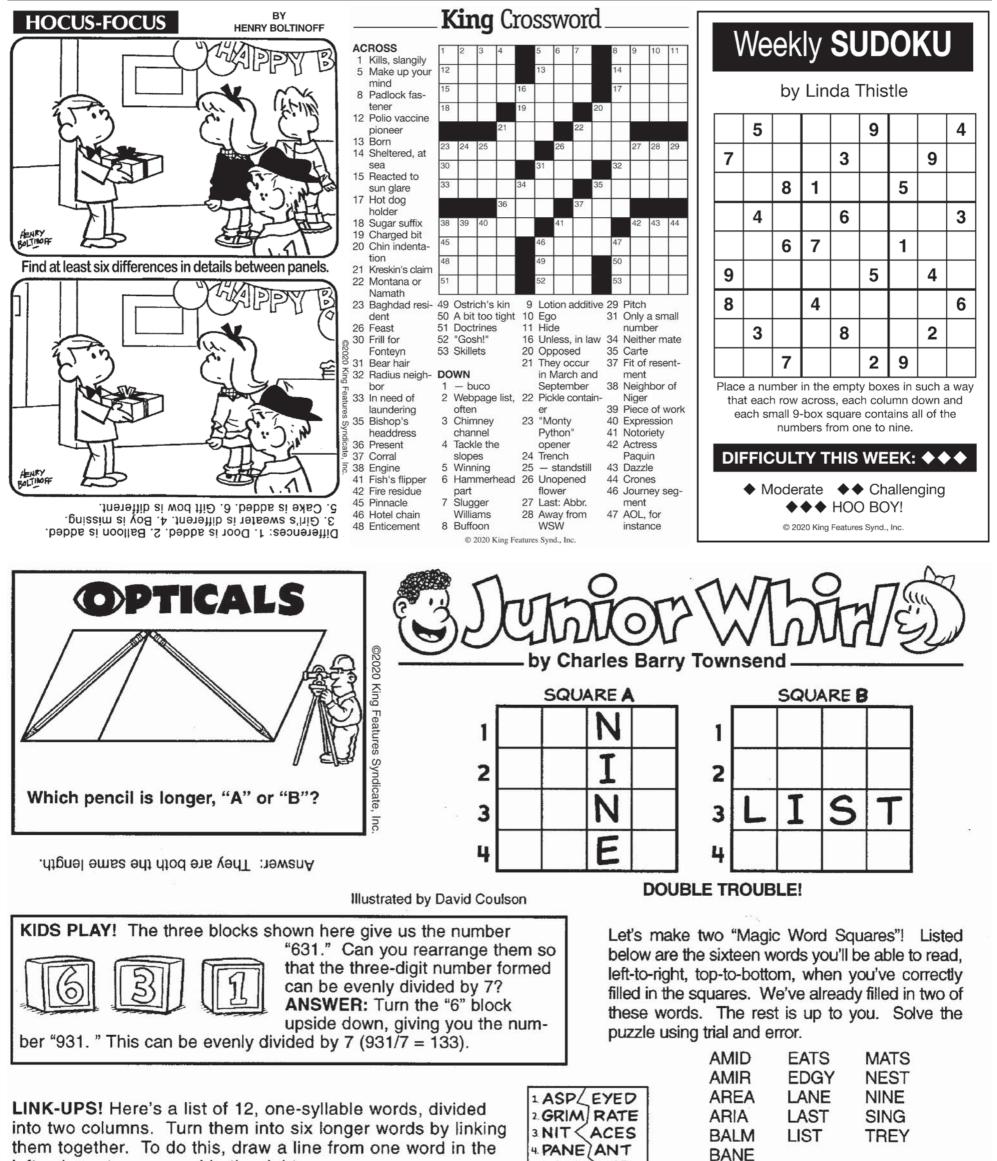
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Answers: Asphalt, grimaces, nitrate, paneled, lackeyed, rampant.

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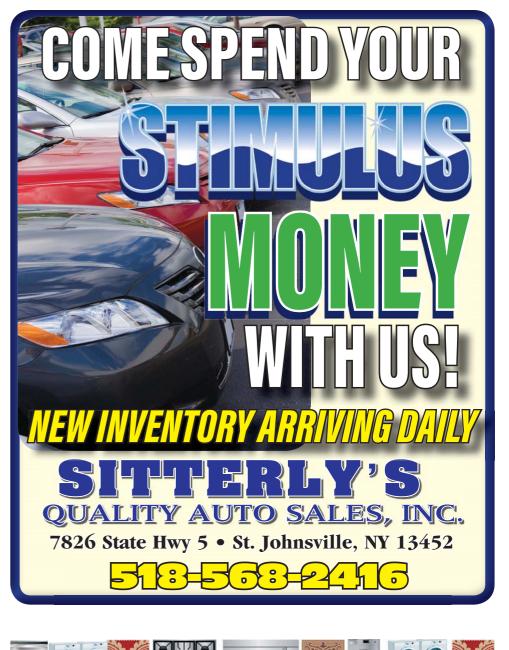
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16 • May 16, 2020







How to clean when faced with a shortage of supplies

In light of concerns about COVID-19, various health organizations have issued specific instructions on how to maintain personal safety and cleanliness. These recommendations involve using common household products to sanitize homes, offices and public spaces. As people take such precautions, many are stocking up on extra essentials – resulting in shortages.

Everything from hand sanitizers to paper towels may be hard to find on grocery store shelves, leaving some to wonder what they can do to remain safe without sanitizers?

The Environmental Protection Agency states that coronaviruses are some of the easiest types of viruses to kill because they have an envelope around them that enables them to merge with other cells and infect them. If that protective coating can be disrupted, the virus can't do its job. For those having trouble finding wellknown cleaning agents, these alternatives may suffice. **Hot water and soap**

The reason hand-washing is at the top of the list of

sanitizing methods is because it is so effective at washing away viruses and bacteria. Friction from scrubbing with soap and water can help break the protective envelope, states the EPA. Soap and water can clean all surfaces in a home, especially when applying a little extra elbow grease.

Hydrogen peroxide

As people clear isopropyl (rubbing alcohol) off the shelves, do not discount hydrogen peroxide. The CDC says household hydrogen peroxide at 3% concentration can deactivate rhinovirus, the virus that causes the common cold, within six to eight minutes of contact. Coronavirus is easier to destroy than rhinovirus, so hydrogen peroxide may be effective at combatting that virus as well.

Natural items can be used for general cleaning, but have not been endorsed for use on COVID-19 disinfection. In lieu of shortages, white vinegar, baking soda pastes and citrus oils and juices could fill the void of chemically-based cleansers for other home tasks.

Tips when planting shade trees

Beautiful landscaping can add instant curb appeal to a property. But beauty isn't the only thing that makes idyllic landscaping attractive to homeowners. Some landscaping features, such as shade trees, save homeowners money while adding aesthetic appeal.

The U.S. Department of Energy notes that shading is the most cost-effective way to reduce solar heat gain in a home. Shading also cuts air conditioning costs, which tend to be expensive in areas with warm, humid climates. In fact, the DOE notes that wellplanned landscapes can reduce unshaded homes' air conditioning costs by anywhere from 15 to 50 percent.

When planting shade trees, one of the first decisions homeowners will need to make is which type of tree, deciduous or evergreen, they want to plant. Deciduous trees are those that seasonally shed their leaves, while evergreens are trees that keep their



518-848-6469

leaves throughout the year. Deciduous trees can help keep homes cool in the summer by blocking sun, and those same trees can be beneficial in winter after they shed their leaves by letting the sun in and keeping homes warm. But evergreens also can be beneficial in winter by blocking wind, potentially preventing cold air from making its way into a home through cracks in walls or around windows.

When planting shade trees, techniques vary depending on which type of tree homeowners ultimately choose to plant.

Planting deciduous trees

The DOE says that deciduous trees that are between six and eight feet tall when planted will begin shading the windows of a home within a year of being planted. Depending on the species of the plant and the home, those same deciduous trees may begin shading the roof within five to 10 years of being planted. When planting deciduous trees, homeowners should keep these tips in mind.

• Plant trees to the south of the home. When planted to the south of the home, deciduous trees can screen between 70 and 90 percent of the summer sun while still allowing residents to feel summer breezes.

• Consider sun angles. Homeowners who want to shade their homes from low afternoon sun angles should plant trees with crowns that are lower to the ground on the west side of their homes.

• Cool air before it reaches your home. Shrubs and groundcover plants can be planted to cool air before it reaches a home.

Evergreen trees

Planting evergreens to block wind is known as "windbreaking," which lowers the wind chill near a home. Wind also can be used to cool a home in summer. But these benefits can only be realized when evergreens are strategically planted.

• Location, location, location: The DOE advises planting evergreen trees to the north and northwest of the home to stop wind. In addition, to get the most bang for your windbreaking buck, the distance between the home and windbreak should be two to five times the height of the mature tree.

• Plant trees on either side of the house. Planting trees on either side of the house will direct cooling winds toward the home in the summer.

Shade trees can help homeowners reduce their energy bills, making them valuable and attractive additions to any landscape.

MOHAWK VALLEY COUNTRY EDITOR

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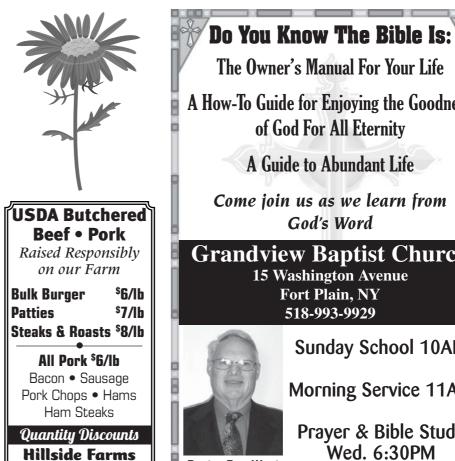
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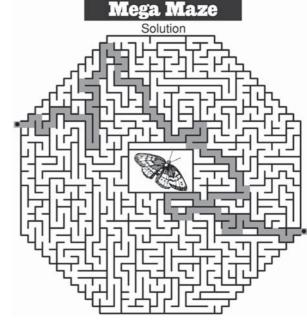


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Why did the mother needle get mad at the baby needle?

It was past its thread time.

Common moving myths - busted!

(StatePoint) — You've finally found the perfect home. Now comes the hard part: moving. But don't let misconceptions complicate the process. To keep frustrations to a minimum and make your move more manageable, here are five common moving myths, debunked.

Myth 1: All moves are disorganized. Truth: Contrary to popular opinion, relocating can be structured. Begin purging items that aren't moving with you several weeks before you start packing. Once you're ready to box up your belongings, pack by room and label, label, label. Numbering containers, color-coding boxes with masking tape and listing contents will help you keep track of your possessions.

If you're unsure of what supplies you'll need, check out the moving calculator at DuckBrand.com. Simply enter the number of bedrooms and baths into the calculator for an instant shopping list based on your needs.

Myth 2: You have to move everything at once. Truth: Don't fall into the trap of thinking you have a single day to move. While for some this is unavoidable, if possible, taking a few days to relocate can greatly reduce stress.

Identify essentials you'll need immediately, like bedding and kitchen tools, and ensure these necessities are "last on, first off" the moving truck. Plan to transition items such as décor and out-of-season clothing later. You may also consider transporting important documents and jewelry separately from the truck to ensure safe passage.

For an easy first night's stay, pack a duffle bag with everything you need for the next 24 hours, including toiletries, a change of clothing and must-haves for kids, like diapers.

Myth 3: Items will break. Truth: Absolutely not! While it can be stressful to transport irreplaceable items, it's easy to keep them safe with solutions like Bubble Wrap brand cushioning.

To ensure a safe arrival, wrap items with the bubbles facing inward, smooth side out. Then, seal boxes

with durable packing tape to ensure a safe arrival.

Myth 4: Duct or masking tape work just as well as packing tape. Truth: Although it's easier to reach for the duct tape in your junk drawer, not every tape will secure your valuables. These adhesives aren't intended for the cardboard surfaces of moving boxes and can peel off minutes after application.

The wrong tape can cause frustration, expensive breakage, compromised storage and even physical harm should a box suddenly break open at the wrong moment. To avoid this, seal boxes with strong packaging tape.

 $\ensuremath{\textbf{Myth}}\xspace$ 5: Friday is the best day to move. Truth: Fri-

days are thought to be the best moving day because it gives you the whole weekend to unpack. However, everyone else thinks that too, which means you pay a premium. The most expensive times to move are weekends and at the beginning or end of the month.

If your schedule allows, select an off-peak time, such as a weekday morning or afternoon. Regardless of when you relocate, book movers several weeks in advance to lock in the day and time you want.

For more information on how Duck brand can help you throughout your moving process, visit www.duck-brand.com.



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Friends in the Garden

by Bonnie Kirn Donahue, Extension Master Gardener, **University of Vermont**

Spending time planning your vegetable garden and thinking about what food you will produce is an excellent way to find some stability in these unsettling times.

While growing our own food is an asset, as well as a source of comfort and enjoyment, I'd like to propose that we also consider providing food and habitat to other creatures that rely on our gardens - the birds, bees, butterflies and the seemingly endless variety of insects that visit us each year.

Why think about these small living things in our gardens? There are many scientific reasons to reassess these relationships and consider many of these visitors as friends.

By being strategic with the plants we select, we can attract beneficial insects to the garden that will actively protect our plants from the more mischievous ones. Planting annuals such as sweet alyssum (Lobularia maritime) and yellow marigold (Tagetes patula 'Little HeroYellow') makes a garden more appealing to the beneficial insects that prey on common garden pests.

Native perennials will provide habitat for bees and butterflies that have the incredible responsibility of pollinating the flowers and crops that provide us with visual and physical nourishment. Try planting one of my favorites, the purple coneflower (Echinacea purpurea). This long-lasting bloomer can be started from seed or purchased from most greenhouses.

Its serrated, dark green, ovate leaves offer a lovely, lush texture to the early summer garden. When the pink petals and bright orange flower heads emerge in mid-summer, butterflies and insects are drawn like magnets to this attractive native plant, taking turns perching on each pointy orange cone head and sucking its nectar. Leaving the seed heads up in the winter will bring winter birds to your garden as well.

Easy-to-grow native shrubs provide year-round interest to people, birds and insects alike. Red-twig dogwood (Cornus sericea) has incredible red-hued stems that look fantastic in the late winter when planted in groups or individually. Though not overly ornamental, birds and insects are attracted to the shrub's flowers and fruit.

Winterberry (Ilex verticillata) produces amazing bright-red berries that birds love (though toxic to humans). The inconspicuous flowers are attractive to honeybees. Both shrubs grow well in full sun to part shade and can tolerate a range of soil types.

Native plants have a long co-evolutionary history with pollinators, so select true native plants, and ideally not the cultivars, when landscaping to ensure that you are providing the most benefit. It's also important to work toward constant and overlapping flowering of native plants to accommodate the most diversity of pollinators. Check with your local greenhouse or nursery for recommendations for your area and growing conditions.

By inviting more beneficial birds and insects into our gardens to protect and pollinate them, we will be rewarded with endless hours of entertainment in the form of buzzing, swooping, chirping and hopping. As the earth warms, these natural visitors are friends that we can safely welcome into our lives.

For more information, visit the University of Vermont Extension Master Gardener gardening resources webpage at go.uvm.edu/garden-resources and click on "Pollinators.







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