



Rob Paton Landscaping, Inc.

Around The House

MAY, 2007

HONEST QUOTES & OLD FASHIONED WORKMANSHIP

Choices Increase for Innovative Home Appliances That Entertain

How about a refrigerator with a TV and DVD player built into the door? It's available.

New trends in home appliances include under-the-counter microwaves, dishwashers, refrigerators, and warming drawers, all with wooden cabinet fronts that give the kitchen a clean, uncluttered look.

According to appliance dealer H.H. Gregg, purchasing two washer/dryer sets is becoming a favorite among people with rooms on more than one floor. They might choose a light stackable for near children's rooms and a heavy-duty unit for the laundry room.

Front-load washers provide cleaner washes with less detergent and less wear on clothing. They use much less water than top-loaders. Because they spin most of the water out, a load will dry in about the same time it takes another load to wash. They are initially more expensive, but make up the difference in detergent, energy, and water savings.

Beverage centers for cooling and storing sodas, wine, and other beverages are becoming popular. They can be framed to match other cabinetry or color-matched to other appliances.

Stainless steel for indoor or outdoor use continues to be a big seller. Indoor products provide a neutral, stylish appearance that fits with any decor. Outdoor stainless steel grills with built-in ovens and side burners, and stainless steel refrigerators with ice machines are popular high-end choices.

Most appliance buyers have taken the time to examine various models, features, and prices. They have done their homework before making a final choice. They know how much they want to spend and look for a unit at about that price with the features that are most important to them.

Rob Paton
Landscaping, Inc.

For All Your Landscaping Needs!



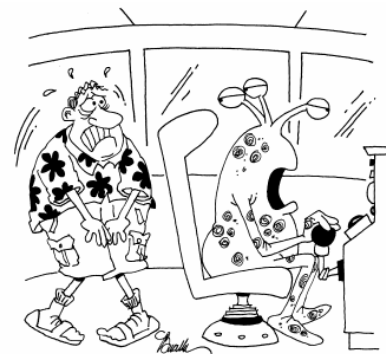
Our Services Include

- *Sprinkler maintenance*

Inside This Issue:

- **Protect Your Family From The Sun**
- **Projects For May**
- **Customer of the month...**

Plus much, much more!!!



"You should have thought of that before I abducted you."

Protect Your Family From The Sun!

Now that spring is here, you and your family will be spending more time outdoors and under the harmful rays of the sun. The ultraviolet light from the sun can damage the skin and lead to skin cancer. Repeated exposure to bright sunlight, especially when the sun reflects off water is a leading contributor to skin cancer. Plus, sunburn and blistering sunburns are also potential causes of skin cancer.

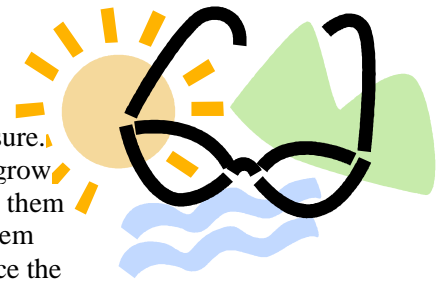
You may also be at risk if any of your close relatives have had malignant melanoma or pre-malignant skin spots. Also, if you have freckles or fair skin that does not tan easily, you may be at risk. Here's a list of ways

you can reduce your risk of skin cancer:

- ❖ Limit your time in bright sunlight
- ❖ Wear cool clothing that covers as much of your body as possible when you are outdoors.
- ❖ Always apply protective sun block with a skin protection factor (SPF) of at least 15, especially if you are going near water.
- ❖ Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes and eyelids.
- ❖ Wear lip balm with sun block to protect your lips.
- ❖ Avoid using skin creams or lotions that contain tar.
- ❖ Whenever possible, keep moles covered

from sun exposure. Most skin cancers grow slowly. By finding them early and having them removed, you reduce the chances of the cancer spreading to other parts of your body. If you notice a mole on your body that is asymmetrical, or the border is ragged, or the pigmentation is not uniform, you will want to have a doctor look at the mole. Also, if you have a mole that bleeds or is sensitive to touch, you will want to have a doctor examine it.

To be on the safe side, it's wise to visit a doctor once a year and have him check your entire body for any signs of skin cancer. "



Fingerprints That Unlock Doors!

If you're tired of your kids losing their keys, or tired of trying to unlock the door while carry a sack of groceries, the new SmartScan deadbolt from Kwikset (\$199.99) could be the answer for you.

It reads a finger pressed against the underside of a small tear-shaped extension of the exterior lock. It can even read dirty fingers and scans the fingerprint as well as details just beneath the skin.

The lock can store up to 55 fingerprints, and customization allows you to grant a baby sitter access just during working hour or a contractor a single 15-minute window to retrieve his tools.

The Best in Eyewear

More than ever, our eyes need to be protected from the sun. Those shades that make you look like the hottest Hollywood celebrity may provide little or no protection. Long-term exposure to UV rays can lead to cataracts, the burning of your cornea, and possibly even vision loss. A dark lens does not provide more protection from UV rays, nor does an expensive price tag.

A good pair of sunglasses should block 99% of UV

light. They should completely cover your eyes and wrap around your temples.

Avoid blue lenses which can increase exposure to the sun's harmful blue light rays. On the other hand, green lenses are great for golfers, and yellow lenses are ideal for tennis players because they make the balls easier to see.

Polarized lenses, which work like Venetian blinds, block reflected light at

certain angles and cut down on glare. They are great for the beach or on the water.

Finally, remember to wear your sunglasses even on a cloudy day. Although the sun may not be visible, your eyes are still exposed to UV rays.

Source: The Wall Street Journal



'Around The House Tip of The Month:

"How To Turn Your Lawn Into A World-Class Masterpiece!"

"Home Maintenance Projects For May"

* Clean the gutters. Then make sure downspouts or splash backs direct water at least 6 feet from the foundation.

* Have the central air conditioning unit checked. Replace the filter in the forced-air system. Clean debris from condenser or heat pump outside.

* Remove mineral deposits from faucet aerators and shower heads by soaking parts in white vinegar and scrubbing with an old toothbrush.

* Have the swimming pool cleaned. Inspect and service pool liners and filters.



With the arrival of warmer weather, it's now time to re-energize your lawn! In this special feature, I will show you how to make your lawn healthy and green. Who knows, you may even end up being the envy of your neighbors!

Soil – One of the best things you can do to your soil is to aerate it. Aeration consists of making small holes in the soil that allow water, air and fertilizer to get closer to the roots.

You can aerate your lawn by renting a walk-behind aerating device or you can poke holes in your lawn with a garden fork. You can also aerate your lawn by wearing golf shoes when you mow.

Watering – the best time to water your lawn is in the early morning when water pressure is greatest, evaporation is minimal and the lawn drinks in the most moisture.

How often to water –

weather is the biggest determining factor when it comes to deciding how often to water. In the summer your best bet is to water every other day.

How much to water - Think of the soil as a sponge that holds water for the grass. You'll want to water deeply to wet the top 2 to 4 inches of the soil to encourage deeper root growth. Avoid daily light watering as this will promote shallow root growth and make the lawn more prone to drought conditions.

The watering test: to determine how long to water your lawn, note the time when you start watering. Periodically open a wedge in the ground with a spade to check penetration. When the water reaches a depth of 4 inches, note how long it took to reach that depth.

Mowing - Mow regularly and cut no more than 1/3 of a grass's length at a time. Use a mulching mower and

leave the clippings on your lawn. Leaving the clippings on your lawn will supply about 25% of the fertilizer your lawn needs. The clippings are 90% water and generally decompose in 7 to 10 days.

Best time to mow - Early evening is the best time to mow. The late start gives grass blades time to recover before they're exposed to daytime heat and wind. Never mow when the grass is wet, as this can damage your lawn.

Best mowing technique – Each time you cut your lawn, it's actually best to alternate the direction you mow. This keeps grass from developing permanent ridges, ruts or becoming compacted from constant traffic.

Follow these simple steps to proper lawn care, and you'll have a beautiful lawn that you can be proud of.





Forsythia Wordoku

Wordoku is another form of sudoku. It simply uses letters instead of numbers. You just make sure that each 3x3 square region has the 9 letters indicated and that the letter only occurs once. Each column and row of the large grid must have only one instance of each letter.

Here's a tip for playing. We'll call the 3x3 squares "regions." With a highlighter, color in all the rows in the large grid and all the columns in the larger grid that have an R in them. We chose R because there are several of them in the puzzle. Finished

Now observe. In the lower left column in the bottom region, what is the only possible location for the R?

This technique is called "scanning" and you usually do it with your eyes and not a marker.

The difficulty rating on this puzzle is easy.

The nine letters used spell the name of the flower: FORSYTHIA.

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	A	O		I	S			
	R	F			Y	T		
Y				F				
		S					Y	F
		R				H		
A	Y					S		
				S				O
		A	I			R	H	
			R	T		F	A	

Answer Key on Page 6



Starting Your Garden

New Jersey's climate is perfect for tomatoes and many other many crops. A home garden can be started almost as soon as the first signs of spring weather appear.

Early plantings of peas, beans, broccoli, spinach and cauliflower can be sown as the first spring rains begin. In fact these and other food crops thrive at cooler temperatures. Spinach has been successfully sown in November for an early spring crop to harvest in April.

The first step in starting your garden is choosing an appropriate size and site

In selecting a site for a vegetable or flower garden, the most important consideration is the amount of sunlight. A general rule is that every square foot of the vegetable patch should receive at least five to six hours of sunlight and preferably more.

Some crops such as lettuce and cucumbers benefit from partial shade in the mid afternoon during the hot summer months, but for most vegetables, the more sun, the better.

Try to locate the garden away from trees and shrubs because not only do they block the sun but their roots may steal moisture and nutrients from your plants. Drainage is another consideration in sitting your garden plot. Low lying areas tend to collect water after heavy rains. These areas can be improved by raising the planting bed. This is done by digging paths four to six inches deep to promote drainage using the soil removed to raise the bed.

May planting guide for vegetables: Beans, Beets, Broccoli, Carrots, Celery, Chard, Collards, Corn, Eggplant, Endive, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce, Okra, Parsley, Peppers, Pumpkins, Radishes, Tomatoes

To be continuing in next Newsletter...

Lightning Is Deadly... Safety Tips During A Storm

Lightning is the second-largest storm-related killer, surpassed in the U.S. only by floods. It can strike as much as 10 miles away from rainfall.

If your hear thunder, immediately get away from metal objects or things made of graphite including golf clubs, umbrellas, tools, and bicycles.

Then take shelter in a building or a metal-topped vehicle. Once inside, stay away from windows and doors.

Don't lean on a car. If you are outside, stay away from other people. Don't share a bench or huddle in a group.

Get out of the water and out of puddles. Get out of a small boat or canoe, or crouch down in the center.

On land, keep twice as far from a tree as it is tall. Crouch in an open space.



Making A Financial Plan: How To Put First Things First

With so many ways to spend your income, it can be difficult to set priorities. Financial planners at Charles Schwab Corp. say this is how to plan.

NAPROXEN: BEST PAIN RELIEVER?

A new report by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality shows that the pain reliever naproxen (Aleve or Naprosyn) offers pain relief that is similar to COX-2 drugs and other NSAIDs (such as aspirin and ibuprofen).

In addition, naproxen may actually lower risk of heart attack for some patients. The report was based on 360 studies.

Pay off high-cost consumer debt first. Paying off an 18 percent credit card is like getting a tax-free 18 percent rate of interest on your money. Pay off the card with the highest rate first.

After that, save enough cash to live on for three to six months in case of emergency or job loss. And save at least something for retirement.

With a cash cushion in place, invest in your retirement 401(k). Invest at least as much as the company will match.

Put retirement savings before saving for your kids' college expenses. You can borrow for college costs, but you can't borrow for retirement.

Don't prepay your mortgage unless you are saving 15 percent of your income for retirement.

Insurance: Make sure homeowner and auto insurance are up-to-date. A full-time worker should have life insurance equal to six to 10 times their income. Consider long-term care insurance which will help pay for time spent in nursing or assisted living care.

Make a will to ensure that your wishes are carried out. Have a durable power of attorney and a health-care power of attorney.

At Home: Six Ways To Safely Move A Heavy Object

Moving a heavy piece of furniture to another room or a heavy piece of equipment to storage? Here's how to do it without hurting your back;



1. Clear the path from all possible obstructions. Give yourself plenty of room. Measure doors to see if they have to be removed to give you a few extra inches to get through
2. Particularly if you are lifting with another person's help, know exactly where you plan to place the object so you don't have to move it several times.
3. Decide where you will grip the object and where you will put it down if you have to. If there are no acceptable grip points, strap it to a dolly.
4. If you are lifting an object by yourself, don't overload. It's safer to make two trips with a 30-pound load than to carry 60 pounds at once.
5. Never lift from a position that causes you to twist your back to one side or the other. If necessary, slide the heavy object into an open space so you can lift it straight up.
6. Bend your knees to lift instead of bending your back.



Wind: Energy Picked Out Of the Air

An old proverb warns "An ill wind blows no good." However, a frequent wind might save you money on your electric bill and offer a secondary energy source.

Residential wind turbines are becoming popular, especially for remote areas off the electrical grid, but they can work for properties with at least an acre of unobstructed land. Residential towers are 80- to 120-feet tall, according to the American Wind Energy Association, and cost from about \$10,000 to \$20,000 to install. Once installed, local utilities must, by federal law, purchase excess power the windmill generates. However, most residential windmills will not supply

all power to a home.

Wind power is also a large component of today's public effort to use renewal energy sources. One of the newest windmill farms is in Iowa where Warren Buffett's Mid American Energy has 257 wind turbines, generating 489 megawatts of energy. The huge project, involving 222-foot turbines with 100-foot rotors, generates just 9 percent of Iowa's energy needs.

Although hailed as a promising energy alternative, wind projects are not always greeted favorably. In Massachusetts, the Kennedy families fought wind farms, which would

disrupt yachting and fishing routes. In New Jersey, wind power remains controversial since the enormous turbines will disrupt coastal views.

Other objections to wind farms are environmental. In Altamont, Calif., one of the oldest wind farms of 4,000 turbines spans 50 square miles, across a migratory bird route. The annual bird kill is put, conservatively, at 5,000, according to USA Today. Wind proponents say newer, taller turbines will kill fewer birds and that all tall man-made structures cause bird kills. They argue windmill bird kills are not nearly the problem as cell tower kills.

Buying A House: Still A Good Investment!

In spite of fluctuations in the real estate market, home ownership has proved over time to be a good long-term investment, say financial advisors.

It's the largest investment most people will ever make, say advisors at WithumSmith+Brown. It brings financial obligations and helps people save by paying down the mortgage and building equity.

People who bought houses some 20 or 30 years ago have reaped big gains. Though prices may be

lower in some areas now, they are still far greater than the original price of the home. Selling at retirement time has become a pivotal move for many in financing a more generous lifestyle at retirement.

Many buyers today are looking for a nice place to live rather than an investment that will pay big returns within a few years. Even with that plan, however, working for a debt-free home is an important step. Further, no one can predict the rate of appreciation in years to

come.

Real estate agents say downturns in home prices are not something new in real estate. Over time, however, home prices will rise and continue to rise.

When financing a home, be cautious about accepting a "nothing down" offer. It's not a good financial move.



H	A	O	T	I	S	Y	F	R
I	R	F	O	A	Y	T	S	H
Y	S	T	H	F	R	A	O	I
T	H	S	A	R	I	O	Y	F
F	O	R	S	Y	T	H	I	A
A	Y	I	F	H	O	S	R	T
R	F	H	Y	S	A	I	T	O
S	T	A	I	O	F	R	H	Y
O	I	Y	R	T	H	F	A	S

ANSWER KEY

Client of the Month!

Client Of The Month. It's just our way of saying thanks and giving a little recognition to our good friends and clients who help support us!

This month's client of the month is the **Mr. & Mrs. Weis of River Vale!**

Congratulations!

SEND A REFERRAL: GET A PRIZE

For every referral you send our way that becomes a client, you will receive a gift from our company:

“\$100 Credit to your account”

By referring your family, friends & neighbors, you've helped our business grow. Offering these special rewards is our way of saying, **“Thank you, you're the best!”**

Without you, we couldn't do what we do. To take advantage of our Referral Reward Program, just fill out the enclosed referral sheet and either fax or send it in. That's all there is to it!

ROCKET REFERRAL REWARD PROGRAM!

If you use this form, we will be able to make sure you get credit for all of your referrals when they become clients. If you have any questions, just give us a call at: 201-391-9471.

You're Name: _____

You're Phone: _____

Referrals: If you run out of room, please feel free to use a separate sheet of paper.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Yes! Feel free to use my name as a reference when you contact the referrals!

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