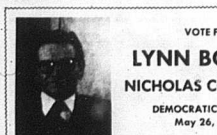
FEBRUARY MARKETBASKET SURVEY

Item	February '80 Average Price	January '81 Average Price	February '81 Average Price
Ground Beef, lb.	1.50	1.43	1.38
Rib Eye Steak, lb.	4.17	4.57	4.45
T-Bone Steak, lb.	3.26	3.69	3.43
Sirloin Tip Roast, lb.	2.54	2.73	2.77
Pot Roast, lb.	1.74	2.05	2.10
Center Cut Loin Chops, lb.	1.90	2.00	1.94
Sliced Bacon, lb.	1.28	1.61	1.54
Roll Sausage, 2 lb.	2.82	3.44	3.32
Smoked Shank Ham, lb.	1.09	1.11	1.25
Spare Ribs, lb.	1.31	1.30	1.26
Whole Fryers, lb.	.64	.71	.68
Cut-up Fryers, lb.	.70	.76	.77
Chicken Breasts, lb.	1.28	1.42	1.38
Grade A, Ex.-lg. Eggs, dozen	.75	.91	.91
Grade A lg. Eggs, dozen	.67	.83	.85
Whole Milk, gallon	2.00	2.23	2.22
2% Milk, gallon	1.84	2.12	2.10
Butter, lb.	1.86	2.08	2.13
Cottage Cheese, 12 oz.	.75	.85	.82
Vanilla Ice Cream, ½ gallon	1.36	1.61	1.57
American Cheese slices, lb.	1.98	2.16	2.18
Cheddar Cheese, lb.	2.26	2.66	2.51
Idaho Potatoes, 10 lb.	1.58	2.61	2.70
Cucumbers, each	.30	.37	.43
Red Delicious Apples, lb.	.50	.47	.42
Lettuce, head	.53	.65	.58
Bell Peppers, each	.31	.40	.43
Tomatoes, lb.	.61	.78	.96
Frozen Corn, 10 oz.	.46	.46	.47
Bread, lb.	.48	.68	.72
Whole Wheat Bread, lb.	.77	.85	.86
Corn Meal, 5 lb.	1.08	1.36	1.28
All Purpose Flour, 5 lb.	1.08	1.13	1.12
Oleo Margarine, lb.	.56	.66	.64
Corn Oil, 24 oz.	1.46	1.53	1.60
Vegetable Oil, 24 oz.	1.26	1.30	1.32
Canned Tomatoes, 16 oz.	.42	.47	.48
Dill Pickles Slices, 16 oz.	.79	.92	.90
Soy Sauce, 5 oz.	.49	.51	.50
Potato Chips, 8 oz. Twin	.90	1.04	1.08
Total Marketbasket	51.27	58.47	58.05



VOTE FOR

LYNN BOWLES

NICHOLAS CO. JAILOR

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY
May 26, 1981

Your Vote and Influence Appreciated

—Paid For By Candidate

Re-Elect

Lovell (Bob) Livingood

Magistrate - Third District

May Primary Election 1981

"Your Vote & Support Appreciated"

— Paid for by Candidate

Vote For

Earl Lee Planck

Magistrate - Third District

May Primary Election 1981

"Your Vote & Support Appreciated"

—Paid for by Candidate

Public Auction

Sat., March 7, 10 A.M.

Located 6 miles from Carlisle and 3 miles from Moorefield on the Locust Grove Road. For the Estate of the late Virgie Jackson

Three acres more or less with 6 room house, barn, chicken houses, meat house. House is part log.

Personal Property:

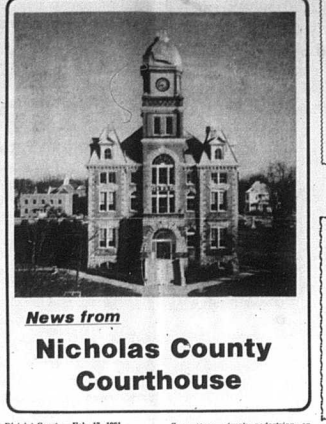
3 metal cabinets, Maytag motor washer, Hotpoint deep freeze, refrigerator, electric stove, 2 kitchen cabinets, pie safe, table and chairs, metal wardrobe, treadle sewing machine, 2 bedroom suites with springs and mattresses, couch, some old baskets, chairs, bookcase, coffee tables and end tables, picture frames, Electralux sweeper, lawnmower, rotor tiller, garden plow, appliances and dishes, lye soap, wire, wood and kindling, 7 tons of coal, odds and ends of lumber, small tools, other articles too numerous to mention.

Ruth & Rose Scott: Co-Executors
Billy Hopkins, Attorney

Earl Hamm Auctioneer and REAL ESTATE BROKER

Carlisle, Ky. Office Phone 289-5720; Home 289-5320

Cashiers: Bob George and Sandye Collins — Clerk: Wilbur Winkle



News from

Nicholas County Courthouse

District Court — Feb. 17, 1981

Robert McGuffey, 107 Pickerel Street, Carlisle, illegal possession of alcoholic beverages for purposes of sale, defendant requested continuance until 2/24/81.

Robert Thompson, North Broadway, Carlisle, illegal possession of alcoholic beverages for purpose of sale, defendant requested continuance until 2/24/81.

Stevie Joe Walton, 319 Walnut Street, Carlisle, possession of alcohol by a minor and possession of marijuana, defendant appeared, entered plea of guilty to both charges, fine $225, costs $25.50.

Billy Ray Lyons Jr., 1825 Liberty Road #418, Lexington, possession of alcoholic beverages by a minor, defendant appeared, entered plea of guilty, fine $25, costs $25.50.

John Martin Cooney, 224 West Third Street, Maysville, license not in possession, defendant produced valid operators license, charge dismissed.

James R. Mann, Route Two, Mt. Olivet, terroristic threatening and assault in third degree (two counts), motion to withdraw as counsel by defendant entered by Harry Budden, motion granted.

Carla C. Ring, Route One, Stanford, criminal possession of a forged instrument in second degree, defendant appeared along with retained counsel, Robert McDaniel, entered plea of not guilty, preliminary hearing date set for 3/3/81.

Carla C. Ring, Route One, Stanford, criminal possession of a forged instrument in second degree, defendant appeared along with retained counsel, Robert McDaniel, entered plea of not guilty, preliminary hearing date set for 3/3/81.

Jo Ann Middleton, Route Four, Carlisle, forgery in second degree, defendant appeared, Harry Budden appointed to represent her, appear 2/24/81.

Jeff Frederick, Route Three, Carlisle, terroristic threatening, defendant appeared, Harry Budden appointed to represent him, appear 2/24/81.

Jeff Frederick, Route Three, Carlisle, assault in third degree, defendant appeared, Harry Budden appointed to represent him, appear 2/24/81.

Zane Gray, drunk pedestrian on highway, defendant appeared, entered plea of guilty, fine $25, costs $25.50, five days in jail probated one year.

Gilbert Allen, Route One, Ewing, no registration plates, defendant appeared, entered plea of guilty, fine $25, costs $25.50.

Forrest A. Thomas, 414 Creek View, Paris, speeding 67 in 55 mph zone, defendant appeared with proof of faulty speedometer, case dismissed.

District Court — Feb. 19, 1981

James Ferry Davis, 2188 Island Drive, Lexington, speeding 77 mph in 55 mph zone, jury trial, defendant found guilty of speeding 66 mph in 55 mph zone, fine $22, costs $25.50.

James Ferry Davis, 2188 Island Drive, Lexington, possession of police radio "fuzzbuster", court found that possession of "fuzzbuster"; property ordered escheated to the Commonwealth of Kentucky for a period of one year.

Small Claims Court — Feb. 17, 1981

Dee Jay Auto Parts vs Robert Matton, $104.42 on account, $15.40 costs, paid in full, case dismissed.

City of Paris — Utilities vs Ida Conyers, $292.51 plus $14, plaintiff requested continuance until 3/17/81.

Licha Farah vs William and Janet Angel, $400 rent and damages, $12.40 costs, case continued until 3/3/81.

Phyllis G. Prather vs Doug McCarty, $285 bad checks, $14 costs, summons issued to Bath County Sheriff for service.

Nicholas County Hospital vs Elsie Earlywine, $769.45 on account, $12.40 costs, plaintiff given leave to file amended complaint.

The Courier-Journal

BARGAIN OFFER ENDS

MARCH 7, 1981

WE ARE BUYING OLD GOLD!

ANYTHING MARKED
10 K — 14K — 18K

Dental Gold - Wedding Bands

American Made Pocket Watches

Class Rings

WE ARE ALSO BUYING STERLING SILVER

John Metz Jewelers

714 Main — Paris, KY

Vote For

J. W. Ecton, Jr.

For Nicholas County Judge/Executive

Primary Election 1981

"Your Vote and Support Appreciated"

—Paid For By Candidate

If you are looking for news you're in the right place!

Introducing

Sigma

New Line of Golf Equipment
All types woods & irons

See Hal Washington

Representative for State of Ky.

Equipment on display at Carnico Country Club — Phone 289-7238

As temperatures go down, electric bills go up.

Winter is cold and dark, and people use more electricity. One reason is heating— the single biggest user of electricity in most homes.

From mid-December to mid-January, it was 36% colder than the same period last year (as measured in heating degree days*). And the full month of January was 15% colder than January, 1980.

More electricity is used for lighting during shorter daylight hours. You probably use more hot water, and more electricity is required to heat colder water coming into the house. Heater and furnace blower motors add to your usage. And you spend more leisure hours at home, using electricity to watch TV and cook big meals.

Energy rates are increasing and even during the cold, dark winter when energy needs are the greatest, you can help keep your costs as low as possible by using energy effectively.

Your full office will be pleased to provide you with energy saving literature and advice.

(*Lexington weather data)

KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Angus bulls, Registered or Commercial. Greenbrier Farms, Carlisle, Ky. Phone 289-5526 anytime or 289-5898 after 6 p.m. 1-6-12tf*

FOR SALE: CPVC plastic pipe ½-inch and ¾-inch; also ABS plastic pipe and fittings at Home Hardware, phone 289-5306. 1-15-tfn

FOR SALE: Bagged Dolomite lime. Coal, block or stoker, cleaned and sorted. See Charles Crump or call 289-5839. 2-5-81*

FOR SALE: RCA and Quasar and Citek TV's. Repairs on refrigeration units, washers and dryers, etc. Charlie's Electronics, 336 East Main, 289-7547. 1-15-tfn

FOR SALE: Bromide gas, $1 can. Remay covers, $21.95 each. Northern Red Clover Seed, $46.80 bushel. Kentucky Fescue, 40 cents pound. Orchard grass, 77 cents pound. Nicholas County Feeders Supply. Phone 289-2363. 2-19-21cg.

FOR SALE: Seven-room house, two baths, completely remodeled, located on West Main Street. Immediate possession. Can be seen any time. Francis Wasson, 289-2449. 2-19-41*

FOR SALE: 50 B and BWF Springer Heifers, two years old, bred to Angus bulls, due Mar. 15, bangs tested negative, approximately 800 lbs. 289-2554. 2-19-11*

FOR SALE: 1973 Dodge Polara. New paint, battery, good condition. Phone 289-5156. 2-19-21*

FOR SALE: Red clover seed. Locally grown, cleaned and tested. $58 per bushel. Si Cleaver, Millersburg. Phone 484-3230, or Eddie Roe, North Middletown, phone 362-4314. 2-26-21*

FOR SALE: Gold loveseat and chair, good condition. Phone 289-7168. 2-26-11*

FOR SALE: Broan range hoods, half price, regularly $95.98, now $12.25. Various colors and sizes. Limited supply. Reid and Vice, Inc. Phone 289-7173. 2-26-11cg.

FOR SALE: 1971 Ford Galaxie four-door sedan, priced $250. Also electric adding machine, $25. Call 289-5543. 2-26-11*

FOR SALE: 1978 Ford Pickup F150 Series. 351 engine with four-speed transmission. Also number 38 J.D. Trailer Mower, extra good. Phone 289-2052. 2-26-21*

NOTICE

NOTICE: Gas and electric water heaters in stock. Tabletop and upright models. Check our prices before you buy. Reid and Vice, Inc. 289-7173. 2-12-41cg.

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS as an independent Avon representative. Sell America's best selling cosmetics, fragrances and jewelry. Work for yourself and set your own hours. Call collect, Jill Nutter, 606-987-4229. 2-26-51cg.

WHERE? At Reid and Vice we have the finest in modern wallcoverings for our valued customers. Come in today and browse through our many books for your favorite room decor. You may want to check for coordinating fabrics also. Phone 289-7173. 2-26-11cg.

NOTICE: Shrine Circus, April 11 and 12. $3.50 per ticket. Rupp Arena. Contact a Mason. 2-26-11*

NOTICE: Advertising space available in Oleika Shrine Circus program. Prices $18 to $200, tax deductible. Contact a Mason before March 6. 2-26-11*

NOTICE: See us for your carpet needs. Commercial or residential. Garrett's Furniture Co., 226 West Main Street. Phone 289-2308. 11-13-tfn.

NOTICE: Largest selection of plumbing supplies in town. Everything from start to finish. Vanities, tubs, commodes, faucets and drain line. Reid and Vice, Inc. 289-7173. 2-19-21cg.

NOTICE: Income Tax preparation: State and Federal — $7.50 short, $10 long. $10-12 Farm. Phone 289-5905 for appointment. Mrs. Gayle Vanlandingham, 223 Archdeacon, I.D. #406102, I.R.S. 2-26-21*

NOTICE: Now in stock prepasted vinyl wall coverings. Many different colors and patterns for every room. Reid and Vice, Inc. Phone 289-7173. 2-5-41cg.

ADMINISTRATRIX WITH WILL ANNEXED NOTICE

All persons knowing themselves to be indebted to the estate of R.P. Alexander, deceased, will call upon the undersigned at once and settle same; and those having claims against said estate will present same properly proven to the undersigned (or attorney) for payment. Catherine C. Alexander, Administratrix with will annexed of the estate of R.P. Alexander, deceased. Charles M. Cox, attorney. 2-26-31*

Earl Hamm Auctioneer and REAL ESTATE BROKER

Carlisle, Ky. Office Phone 289-5720; Home 289-5320

Cashiers: Robert George & Sandra Collins — Clerk: Wilbert Winkle

Public Auction

Sat., Feb. 28, 10:30 a.m.

Located 7 miles from Carlisle at Myers Station on Flemingsburg Road

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Howard have bought a house in Carlisle and authorized us to sell their home consisting of 10 rooms, bath, new foundation, new sewage system, a drill well, two acres of land with good garden spot, house is in good condition.

Personal Property

CA Allis Chalmers tractor, two-row cultivators, 12" plows, drags, John Deere mower, 1972 model Ford pickup, 1968 Dodge Dart, hammers, wrecking bars, hoes, pitch forks, bolts and nails, five sheets of 1/2" plywood, 21 pieces of underpinning, ladders, 25 new concrete blocks, XL Homelight saw Super 2, 2 whiskey jugs, lard press, lard kettle, cider press, irons, quilt frames, nice up-right piano and stool, couch and chairs, end tables, electric stove, refrigerator, up-right deep freeze, Speed Queen washer & dryer, 2 clothes wardrobes, chairs, metal dish cabinet, pressure cooker, vacuum cleaner, 410 Stephens shotgun, 16 gauge shotgun, .22 pistol, 2 coal stoves, 2 bales of cedar wood shingles, steel cable, log chains, storm door, electric weed eater, electric grinder, iron digger, other articles too numerous to mention.

BUY, SELL, TRADE OR RENT THROUGH THE CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

Cash with order rates

CLASSIFIED ADS 12¢ per word 1-25 words $3.00 per insertion $5.00 for 2 insertions.

In Memoriams and Cards of Thanks—same as classified rates above.

Bold Faced Words 25¢ a word.

Classified Display $2.10 col. inch.

No refunds on classified ads cancelled by customer.

Pay Cash Save!

NOTICE: We are not responsible for errors in Classifieds, we will rerun without charge corrected ad if notified the following week. Any error on number of insertions should be reported the week following publication of advertising. Failure to report by 10 a.m. Tuesday will result in the customer being charged for that or following weeks insertions unless notified by advertiser. The Carlisle Mercury.

Classified Ad Page Deadline Tuesday Noon

CO-ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE

All persons knowing themselves to be indebted to the estate of Lizzie Belle Brunker, deceased, will call upon the undersigned at once and settle same; and those having claims against said estate will present same properly proven to the undersigned (or attorney) for payment. Mildred Green and Erwin Brunker, Co-Administrators of the estate of Lizzie Belle Brunker, deceased. Charles M. Cox, attorney. 2-26-31*

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER SECURITY AGREEMENT

Pursuant to KRS 355.9-504, on Nov. 6, 1980 Julian Crawford executed a Security Agreement assigned for value to First National Bank of Carlisle, Ky. Default having been made on this agreement, First National Bank shall offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, on Friday, Mar. 6, 1981 at 10 a.m. on bank parking lot, a 1973 Ford P.U. Truck, Model F10G and a 1973 Plymouth Fury I, four-door sedan, Model #PL41. 2-26-21cg.

CARD OF THANKS: We want to thank our friends, relatives and neighbors for the food, flowers, cards, visits and prayers during the illness and death of our mother; also those who provided transportation to the hospital. May God bless each one is our prayer. Children of Lizzie Brunker. 2-26-11*

POSTED

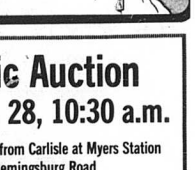
All persons are hereby notified not to trespass, fish, hunt, trap or shoot upon the land of the undersigned. Any person caught trespassing in violation of this notice will be reported to the Sheriff and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. It is necessary that we take this step to protect our property and wildlife.

Jack Wells Farm.

Laugh Out

"I hear you got thrown out of school for calling the dean a fish."

"I didn't call him a fish. I just said, 'That's our dean,' real fast."



Answer to puzzle

Residential and Commercial

Electrical Wiring

Call 289-2480
Day or Night

Paul Stone

Free Estimates

Crawford Farm and Building Supply Co., Inc.

Route 2 at Piqua
Mt. Olivet
Phone 724-5217

Lumber, Building and Farm Supplies.

REPAIR SERVICE

Appliance, Chain Saw Repair & Sharpening, Electric Hand Tools, Small Engine & Lawnmower Repair

Political Announcements

For County Judge/Executive

We are authorized to announce Reese Smoot as a candidate for re-election as Nicholas County Judge/Executive, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary, May 26, 1981.

For County Judge/Executive

We are authorized to announce J.W. Ecton Jr. as a candidate for the election as Nicholas County Judge/Executive, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary, May 26, 1981.

For Magistrate

We are authorized to announce Orville ((Bus) Atkinson as a candidate for re-election as Magistrate, Fifth District, subject to the actog of the Democratic Primary, May 26, 1981.

For County Court Clerk

We are authorized to announce Reese Scott as a candidate for election as Nicholas County Court Clerk, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary May 26, 1981.

For Nicholas County Jailer

We are authorized to announce Charles (Chick) Lenz as a candidate for re-election as Nicholas County Jailer, subject to the May 26, 1981 Primary.

For Property Valuation Administrator

We are authorized to announce Mrs. Robert A. Brady as a candidate for re-election as Property Valuation Administrator, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary, May 26, 1981.

For Senator of 30th District

We are authorized to announce John Swichard as a candidate for election to Senator from the 30th District, comprising Nicholas, Bourbon, Harrison, Robertson, Scott, Woodford, and part of Fayette counties, subject to the Democratic Primary, May 26, 1981.

For Jailer

We are authorized to announce Ralph Treadway as a candidate for election as Nicholas County Jailer, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary, May 26, 1981.

For County Judge/Executive

We are authorized to announce James Geaune as a candidate for election as Nicholas County Judge/Executive, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary May 26, 1981.

— NOTICE —

I will not be responsible for any debts, other than my own, after this date.

February 19, 1981

Signed: Hubert Brooks

319 Broadway
Address

Carlisle, Ky
Address

3-19-31*

Only on the Goal Line
Will you get more Action Than a Classified Ad Brings. Place your Classified Ad Today!

WHO WAS THAT LADY?

The first native-born American woman to have her plays professionally performed, this woman was a prolific writer of poetry and prose alike. A spokesperson for early women's education, she penned many magazine articles defending her cause, such as the one published in the Massachusetts Magazine in 1790: "We can only reason from what we know, and if opportunity of acquiring knowledge hath been denied us, the inferiority of our sex cannot fairly be deduced from thence." Who was that lady? — Judith Sargent Murray

SPORTSWORD

Can you find at least 25 five-letter words in the following Sportsword? No proper nouns or plural endings.

SKATEBOARD

(A short board with wheels.)

Abate	Dealt	Haste	Rebut	Slate
Adult	Debut	Heard	Recut	Stare
Aloft	Delta	Heart	Relay	Taste
Arise	Dirge	Hoard	Repay	Tease
Arose	Elate	Hoped	Reset	Tenet
Ashen	Elect	Horse	Rinse	Tenth
Bleat	Erase	Ideal	Roast	Trade
Bleed	Erect	Irate	Route	Treed
Bloat	Erupt	Learn	Saint	Trust
Bloom	Event	Leave	Salve	Upset
Bread	Flesh	Lodge	Scare	Valet
Brief	Flood	Mayor	Scene	Weave
Cabin	Flour	Mercy	Scent	Weird
Cheat	Fraud	Mirth	Scout	Worst
Chest	Frost	Moist	Shear	Worth
Chief	Glare	Mourn	Shelf	Yacht
Cleat	Glean	Nerve	Shirt	Yeast
Cloak	Grade	Ocean	Shoal	Yield
Cloud	Grant	Ought	Shore	Young
Coast	Grave	Paint	Shout	
Crate	Guard	Pearl	Skate	
Crest	Guest	Plant	Skirt	
Crime	Guide	Plate	Sleet	
Crust	Guilt	Plead	Sleeve	
Dance	Guise	Poach	Slept	
Dealt	Haste	Rebut	Slate	

MAGICWORD

HOW TO PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle then strike it off the list. Circling it will show a letter has been used but will leave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big words first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your MAGICWORD.

THE YANGTZE RIVER — 8 letters

CLUES

A—Agriculture, Asia; B—Basin, Busy; C—Canals, China, Cliffs, Coast, Commerce; D—Deepest, Delta, Dense, Descent, Drainage; E—Elevation, Estuary; F—Flooding; G—Gorges; H—Highlands; I—Industry; J—Junk; L—Levees, Limestone, Longest; N—Navigation; P—Population; S—Scenic, Seaward, Shanghai, Silt, Source; T—Tibetan

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: WILDERNESS 458

© 1981 McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

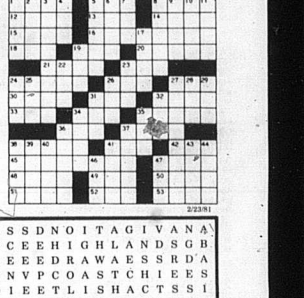
★CROSSWORD PUZZLE★

ACROSS

1. Not on time
5. Healed
9. On an ocean liner
12. Nautical term
13. — football
14. Farm crop
15. Christmas
16. One of our people to a Martian
18. Private room
19. Winter month (Abbr.)
20. Peewee, formerly a Dodger
21. Sleeping
23. Fuel
24. Acted like a gale
26. Salary
27. Freight —
30. Biblical garden
31. Actor, — Milland
32. Hopped
33. — diem
34. Summer appliance
35. Mended shoes
36. Hem and —
37. "— as a policeman"
38. A Musketeer
41. Chum
42. Sin
45. Locale of a western
47. S-shaped molding
48. Military man
49. Actress, Ruby —
50. "New —"
51. Blushing
52. — Carnay
53. Catch sight of

DOWN

1. Step ashore
2. Drug plant
3. One between 12 and 20
4. Slippery fish
5. Race
6. Sadat's subject
7. Craggy hill
8. — and pains
9. A fee
10. History terms
11. A queen's appliance
17. Cafeteria receptacle
19. Gave food
22. England's Big —
23. Hippy
24. Congressional abbr.
25. American humorist
26. Peter —
27. High School graduates go there
28. Common verb
29. Color of anger
31. Uncooked
32. Also
34. Live without food
35. The sun
36. Term of endearment
37. Proofreader's mark
38. Distant
39. Musical group
40. Mortar receptacles
41. Earl
43. Harvest
44. Depend
46. Feminine name
47. A Keats work



2/23/81

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

'Raised Bed' and 'Container' Gardens

Gardening In 'Limited Space' Areas

So you'd like to have a garden, but don't have the space or the right kind of soil.

That's really no problem, says Mary Witt, Extension specialist in home horticulture with the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture of UK's College of Agriculture.

With a little effort and some ingenuity a "green thumb" ability can be demonstrated that the individual never realized existed.

"You simply start gardening in what is described as a 'raised bed' or in a container," Witt says.

She said there are soils—such as a heavy clay soil—that are hard to manage in developing a garden. And a lot of seed packets carry the statement, "Sow seed in early spring as soon as the soil can be worked." But, she said, "if you have rain soaked clay soil, you may not get it worked until early summer—and your soil even then is far from the ideal well-drained sandy loam."

"Good drainage is really important," Witt said. "Plant roots can't develop without a constant supply of oxygen and constant removal of carbon dioxide. In soil, water replaces air—and if the water doesn't move through quickly, roots may suffocate.

"So, if you have 'impossible soil'—the best advice is to rebuild the soil or just start from scratch with new soil in a 'raised garden' or in containers," she added.

Rebuilding soil takes a long time. Organic material —and lots of it—must be added to soils that are too heavy, and that usually takes years of work. "Compost, manure, aged sawdust or ground bark added to clay soils make them more mellow and easier to work," Witt explained. "You have to add the organic material until at least a third of the final soil mix is organic matter—and that's a long time development.

So a person who wants to "make" a garden could well use the "raised bed" or container method, if a small garden is the goal.

She pointed out that both methods have their limits in the matter of space, noting it would be "quite costly" to develop a big "raised garden" or use a large number of containers.

"Raised beds have been around for a long time and simply allow above-the-soil planting," the horticulturist said. "Raised soils can be framed and held in place by stones, railroad ties, logs, lumber, brick and concrete blocks of a variety of dimensions." If lumber is used, it is best to use pressure-treated lumber that will resist decay and will last longer.

Witt pointed out a number of advantages of raised gardens if only a limited amount of space is to be used, noting that solving the space problem is probably the greatest advantage.

Another is that a raised garden speeds up spring planting. In a wet, cool spring, the soil in a raised bed will warm up and be ready for planting weeks before regular garden soils can be planted.

With soil above ground level, there is never too much rain, for drainage away from the bed is possible. Unless the soil around the bed is flooded, the raised bed will never be waterlogged.

Another advantage is that a person doesn't have to kneel or "bend double" with a raised garden. "You sit on the edge of the raised beds when weeding, and unless the dimensions are too large, cultivating can be done with a putty knife instead of a hoe," Witt said.

"A raised garden is always neater," she added. The gardener seems to feel an obligation to keep the plantings clean and neat. Weeds are more distracting in a raised bed than in an equal amount of planting space in a hidden corner of the garden.

A raised bed can be an attractive element in all four seasons. The color of flowers and vegetables "comes and goes with the seasons and in a raised bed there is a resulting order to the garden in every season.

Witt pointed out, too, that raised beds make ideal "wheelchair gardens." The beds can be adjusted to wheelchair height, making gardening available to handicapped persons.

The raised bed is also a pet of "specialty gardeners"—herb gardeners, collectors of miniatures in bulbs and flowers, cactus or whatever—the specialty gardeners appreciating the restraint and the "close-to-eye level" of the raised beds.

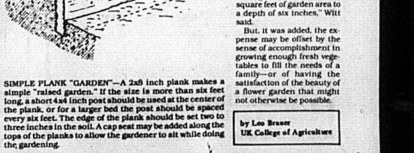
Where space is "really limited," container gardens are the answer, Witt said. "Container gardens have been very popular for a long time—especially where space and good soil are at a premium. Almost anything will grow in a container as long as drainage holes are provided and good loose soil is used in the container," she said. Container gardens were described as "excellent" for patios and apartments.

"Synthetic soils or soil substitutes are becoming more available all the time in greenhouses and garden centers," Witt noted. She said such mixtures are particularly adapted to both raised beds and containers because regular field or garden soils often hold too much water when placed in confined areas. The result is that the plants are "over watered" and die.

She warned, however, that synthetic soils can be expensive. "Depending on the type of synthetic soil you buy, you may have to pay from $20 to $100 per cubic yard, which is enough to fill 300 eight-inch baskets or 54 square feet of garden area to a depth of six inches," Witt said.

But, it was added, the expense may be offset by the sense of accomplishment in growing enough fresh vegetables to fill the needs of a family—or of having the satisfaction of the beauty of a flower garden that might not otherwise be possible.

RUSTIC "GARDEN"—Small logs, railroad ties or sections of old utility poles make ideal borders for raised gardens. The materials should be big enough so that the soil depth is around eight inches.



SIMPLE PLANK "GARDEN"—A 2x8 inch plank makes a simple "raised garden." If the size is more than six feet long, a short 4x4 inch post should be used at the center of the plank, or for a larger bed the post should be spaced every six feet. The edge of the plank should be set two to three inches in the soil. A cap seat may be added along the tops of the planks to allow the gardener to sit while doing the gardening.

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