

Happy Weekend — with Charlie Hoye

There's a rumor flying around that Spring has arrived. Actually it did, at 7.22 the month of March 20, but daily upon rising, a quick glance at 18 degree or 20 degrees, sometimes up to 30 degree temperatures anytime between 6.30 and 8 a.m. haven't given much proof to the rumor.

However, there's no doubt Spring is very far away. How can it be far away when on Wednesday morning this week there appeared pretty definite signs of the coming pleasant season, at least three dead skunks on Curran Highway, borders of birds pulling at the turf which suddenly appeared from under the snowflakes instead of clustering about the bird feeders many generous wildlife lovers keep stocked through the winter?

So Spring is here. And back is the Happy Weekender, happily scheduling things for YOU to do and maybe for him to do if the home pressure gets stiff enough. There's certainly a lot of cleanup work to be done around the yard, mine, yours, theirs, and on the properties of the city and the towns and about now I'm getting the spirit and have noticed quite a few others are as well even though we're still finding most everything still frozen to the ground.

There's nothing so frustrating as trying to work with outdoor tools which just aren't in working shape, however. For instance a rake with missing teeth, a shovel with a loose handle, a lawnmower that won't start, a wheelbarrow with a wheel that won't turn.

Here's where your Happy Weekends start. This weekend, says the weatherman, may be misty and most likely not all the frost will be out of the ground yet for your cleanup. It will

be a good weekend to start getting the tools ready for next weekend.

A can of oil might be a good item to pick up at the store this morning so you can lubricate that wheelbarrow wheel, the wheels on the lawnmower, the trash cart, the lawn roller, the hinges on the outdoor shed where you store your tools, maybe even the garage door. You might even need the type of cutting oil which will break the rust that might have formed.

It might not hurt to check out all the tools and see what needs fixing, straightening, cleaning, or maybe tossing and replacing. The little things you can fix this weekend and be already for next weekend.

The lawnmower will probably need a new spark plug and an overhaul. There's a heap to be said for a good running mower, all more pleasant to hear than what you'll have to say if it won't work. Mr. Pierce, Mr. Dydowicz, Mr. Abraham, Mr. Bona, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Hobart, Mr. George, Mr. Gaspard, and other mower repairmen in the area will be glad to give you quick service if you get to them now and not wait for their busy season.

Rounding up suggestions for other people to work, might seem easy but it's not really when you consider it must be done carefully enough not to tie the writer down terribly to a list of weekend chores. However, we all know we've got to do some of the things on the list some of the time. Therefore maybe some of you don't mind a reminder once in a while. And that reminds me, the wife said something a couple of weeks ago about that drippy faucet in the bathroom sink so... Happy Weekend.



GENERAL STORE AND GARAGE—Pictured is the Savoy Package Store, sold by Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Luczynski of Savoy to Charles L. Stohl, of New Fairfield, Conn., who stands in front of it. Building will be operated as general store, gasoline station and mechanical garage by Mr. Stohl, a mechanic. Sale was negotiated by Chester N. DuPont.

Cover-up grows to be an art

By VIVIAN BROWN
AP Newsfeatures Writer

The art of cover-up is an interesting aspect of the currently resurging do-it-yourself movement.

If you cannot afford to replace walls and floors, you find another solution and sometimes the inventive substitute proves to be more attractive than the original.

For example, old gouged floors always have been an aesthetic deterrent to the beautification of old houses. But people buy these dwellings, good floors or not, and then put their imaginations to work treating the problems in new ways.

Some people even replace old pine boards by making new ones look old. One man left two random-width floor boards out doors all winter. Then he treated them with creosote until they

had almost the exact finish of the original boards.

Many of the painted floors in bad condition are softwood. These may be repainted in bright colors to flatter the decorative scheme. Of one owns the house with bad floors one must decide whether the floors will be improved by the treatment. Painting often is done when the owners contemplate putting in new floors some day.

But painted floors have become so popular that many interior designers use such finishes on the best of floors. White is popular in the bowling alley finishes, but some use blue, pumpkin, yellow, green. And there are designers who like dark brown-black lacquered floors.

On bad floors in an old house the inclination may be to put something

garish on them as an eye arrester, but it is better to look at the project as a lasting one. You might change it in a few years, but then again, perhaps, you may not.

One couple put red over brown floors, but they hated it. It was mottled because they hadn't sanded the floors. They put another coat over it, but still did not like it. They finally covered the hallway with an inexpensive carpet and bought area rugs for the bedrooms.

Here are some ideas for painting floors:

For best results, the floors should be sanded "to get a tooth" as they say in the floor trade. Once this sanding provides the adhesive quality needed, you can proceed. Outdoor deck paints may be used for good results and these are available in grays, browns, green, and brick, but other colors also can be formulated in most paint stores. A vinyl eater should be used.

One smashing design for floors is a big checkerboard design, but it takes planning and the careful interest of two people. One couple painted a giant blue and white checkerboard of three-foot squares. They marked the wall every three feet at the base and then drew white string from the middle of each wall to the opposite wall at these points, fastening it to tacks on the floor. When they had a series of string checks in the center of the room, they marked off the floor with chalk at the string lines. This set of squares was painted first. Lucky, too, as the project developed they discovered the room wasn't plumb. But they solved that one by painting a blue border around the room.

Improvising as one goes along makes



A NEW LOOK—F. W. Woolworth's store in Adams has installed attractive and modern low metal counters and islands to replace outmoded high counters. Here is a scene in the store decked out with its Easter displays. Counters are now knee high in most cases. (Transcript Photo-Lamb)

Woolworth store modernizes

The F. W. Woolworth Company store on Park Street in Adams looks the same on the outside—the familiar red front with gold lettering but inside is something else.

Gone are the ages-old chest-high counters of mahogany and covered in the old and worn wooden floor. Redecorated are the walls in green and beige and the walls themselves have had pegboard installations made for hanging of plastic packaged goods in today's trend of merchandising.

Stanley O'Connor, of Cheshire, genial

longtime manager of the store, seeking for sometime to modernize the store, obtained the furnishings of a Woolworth store in Holyoke when it was closed down.

For the past two months, the old counters in the Park Street store have been gradually replaced by low, light brown metal counters and islands; starting from the rear of the store and working forward.

Simultaneously the floor has been covered with plywood, to even out the

years of constant traffic, and beige tiles have been put down.

One of the major features of the store change has been to take the center checkout station from the middle of the store and replace it with three checkout counters and cash registers at the front of the store.

Mr. O'Connor hopes that in the near future he may be able to convert the existing old lighting system, consisting of individual bulb and bowl fixtures.

A high ceiling in the store may be replaced with a suspended ceiling with indirect fluorescent lighting.

Most of the improvements in the store were completed in time for Easter merchandise display early this week.

Ronald Hartwig, Adams contractor from River Street, handled all of the carpentry and renovation work in the store for Mr. O'Connor.

Renovation of the store is another in a continuing series of renovations along Park Street in the area which had been scheduled for urban renewal demolition in a project which was turned down by Town Meeting members last year.

Real Estate Deeds

Recorded at the Northern Berkshire Registry of Deeds in Adams

Adams
Ernest H. and L. Clara Dupras to Alan S. Canter, Mount Greylock.
Katarzyna Halek to Chester J. and Celia T. Halek, Burt Street.
Leona L. Baker to Eugene P. and Carolyn A. Lozinski, Commercial Street.

Cheshire
Robert T. Jr. and Penny S. Arnold to Trustees, Penbob Realty Company, North Street.
Wayne C. Jaeschke to self and Luisa R. Jaeschke, Outlook Avenue.

Lanesboro
Richard C. and Patricia M. Jones to Isadore Goodman.
Thomas S. and Arline J. Biggart to Youssef B. Chahade, et al.
Jean E. Nova to John T. Nova, South Main Street.
Stanislav A. and Cynthia M. Zembaty to Murray D. and Suzanne D. Ziontz.

Williamstown
Mary C. Cicchetti to Henry E. and Betty F. Kovacs, Cole Avenue.
Alphonse E. and Elizabeth W. Caprio to Walter B. III and Margaret M. Riley, Henderson Road.
Francis Vincent Rooney by administrator to Andrew A. and Eleanor B. Vachereau, North Hoosac Road.

Windsor
Gilbert A. and Ellen C. Leitch to Joseph L. and Margaret J. Birchfield, Shaw Road.

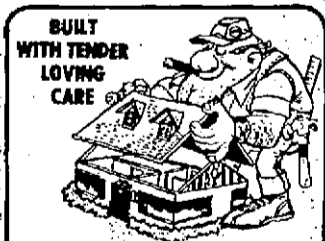
for something individualistic. But you don't want to experiment unless you think it through carefully.

This amateur painter worked with a shirt cardboard on the chalk line to keep paint from spilling over to the next square. White squares were painted first — two coats were needed — so they could dry before the darker color was put down. The lady of the house painted the darker squares using the cardboard as a guide. It is a tedious job, but the couple feels it was well worth the backaches.

The couple was timid about using the power sander which they rented locally, but their floors were gouged to begin with, so they decided to take a chance. The alternative might be hand sanding and this can be employed if all you want to do is get a rough finish.

They regretted not having marked off the squares on paper before they proceeded, noting the scuffed and gouged areas. In that way they might have worked the blue squares into the bad areas. The other alternative is to use area rugs over gouged sections and that can be a pretty look.

In choosing colorful finishes for floors, the important part of the venture is to be sure the colors chosen will go with furnishings being used with it now and for a long time.



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Spring-garage remodeling

During winter, how does the lady of the house manage with the new family garage? Is she able to squeeze out of the car when wearing her winter coat?

House shoppers and new house builders seldom take the garage into consideration when they buy or build. It's an attitude that doesn't make sense these days when the garage is more than an accessory. It is also a necessity for the many storable items that can't be put into the house or utility room.

Few people consider remodeling a garage, particularly one built for a sports car that doesn't adequately accommodate an average-size vehicle. Most garage remodeling is not costly,

and a few extra feet for needed conveniences pays dividends in family contentment.

Families move from cities to suburban areas, often forgetting that the lady of the house may need to spend most of her day in the family car, marketing and running errands.

Spring will be a good time to remodel a garage. You can install doors, add to the rear or sides, and even, as one family did, turn the garage into an extra room, and build a new garage more accessible to the road. Remodeling a garage can be far less costly than putting an addition on a house where layers and layers of expensive materials might be required.

occupy the ground and second floors of the seven story structure.

In addition to retail stores, the ground floor will include a restaurant, cocktail lounge and an indoor swimming pool with sauna baths.

James W. Casey and David L. Dickey, owners of Gallup-Dickey Insurance Agency Inc., have named Robert E. Patenaude, the agency's real estate manager, to direct the agency's search for prospective rental clients.

Mr. Patenaude said this week that there is no set number of stores and offices as yet in the building, and that construction when started will be geared to the desired sizes of quarters as indicated by prospective first occupants.

Gallup-Dickey Agency North Adams Inn agent

Gallup-Dickey Insurance Agency Inc., North Adams real estate and insurance brokers, has been named the exclusive rental agent for the forthcoming North Adams Inn.

The inn is planned for construction on the urban renewal tract at Main Street and American Legion Drive, with building expected to begin, according to project manager Edward Gravitz, early

this month. A model of North Adams Inn is on display currently in the lobby of the Berkshire Bank and Trust Company in Berkshire Plaza, the across-the-street neighborhood of the new inn.

As exclusive rental brokers, Gallup-Dickey Insurance Agency Inc. will be responsible for securing and coordinating tenants for the professional office suites and retail stores that will

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