

# Welcome!

By Alexander Hutchison  
Recorder Publisher

Now, look here, let's have none of this "there's nothing to do" nonsense this weekend — or any weekend from now on.

There's plenty to do, and much of it is included in this maiden issue of 'leisure' magazine, a weekly publication devoted to the proposition that most of us are interested in using our spare time intelligently and even creatively.

That's not to say pure old-fashioned loafing, with nothing to do but sit on the deck and soak in the sun, is out of bounds. But even the most assiduous loafer may eventually cast around for something somewhat more active in the way of leisure activity, even if it is something as quiet and contemplative as reading a book or watching the reruns of "Three's Company."

This new magazine, the brainchild of a recently established "readership committee" at The Greenfield Recorder, is designed to help subscribers to this newspaper get through the rigors of their weekends or other time off from normal, income-producing pursuits in such a way as to make these periods more rewarding and memorable.

It is an especially appropriate undertaking for a newspaper in this area, for Franklin County and the rest of Western New England is rich in leisure opportunities of all kinds and it is to be presumed readers of The Greenfield Recorder are particularly interested in such activities.

Key ingredients in this new magazine will include a weekly "calendar of events" listing interesting, open-to-the-public activities throughout the region, and the regular weekly television listings on a more complete scale than was possible under The Recorder's previous arrangements.

Bob Dolan, who has been around The Greenfield Recorder for nearly all his adult life, is chairman of the readership committee and editor of 'leisure' magazine. He'll be receptive to ideas for articles and illustrations, and he's always interested in hearing from free lance writers who might like to contribute to the product.

Bob is a veteran outdoorsman and no doubt he'll be a major contributor to the magazine, drawing on his considerable experience in several recreational pursuits.

But much of the material will come from the readers themselves, those who have an intense interest in particular leisure time activities.

The point is this magazine is for the readers, every single one of them, because there's reason to think that every single reader has at least some interest in the broad field of leisure.

The Recorder's readership committee, functioning as a sort of "board of directors" of this magazine, invites reader comment and reader participation.

Such participation in itself may be regarded as a form of leisure activity.

See? It's all around us. □

## In This Issue

Volume 1—Number 1

May 22, 1980

### Features

- leisure I** — *What is leisure? How does it rate in today's world?*  
By Beth Russell and Jackie Smith  
Page 4
- leisure II** — *When does one find time to try it?*  
By John A Senior  
Page 5
- leisure III** — *How a teacher spends her hours away from school.*  
By Jane Percival  
Page 3



Jackie Smith

### Columns

- Books**—*An introduction to a weekly review on select choices of current favorites.*  
By Mary Metcalf  
Page 14
- Gardening**—*How to properly prepare a compost pile*  
By Pat Leuchtman  
Page 15
- Bridge**—*The Mad World columnist joins the ranks of leisure contributors.*  
By Charlie Keller  
Page 11



Beth Russell

- Food**—*Gourmet cooking by a male chef.*  
By John Kazigian  
Page 6
- Outdoors**—*History is made as shad and salmon are allowed once again to pass beyond Turners Falls.*  
By Bob Dolan  
Page 12



John Kazigian

### Other Topics

- Music** Page 7
- Gardening** Page 15
- Movies** Page 20
- Television** Page 22
- Photography** Page 18
- Stamps** Page 18
- Calendar** Page 8
- Handicrafts** Page 10
- Crossword** Page 19



Mary Metcalf

COVER: Artist Linda Marlowe of Greenfield

### Next Week:

*A summer life section, helping readers to know just what is going to be going on in a wide variety of fields.*

By Recorder staffers

Supplement to the Greenfield Recorder  
14 Hope Street, Greenfield, Mass. 01301  
Editor: Robert P. Dolan, Jr.

# Gardening

## Compost piles vital for good gardening

*Complete instructions offer assistance to home amateurs*

*By Pat Leuchtman  
leisure Columnist*

**I**t was in Greenfield that I had my first vegetable garden and since then I've gardened in Maine on a pile of sand and in a rocky New York backyard. As I start this column I must confess that I may not be an "expert" gardener yet, but I am still as enthusiastic starting my garden in Heath as I was the day we turned the soil for that first Greenfield garden.

Since gardening is a science, I am fortunate that experts like Tina Smith, home horticulturist at the extension service, have agreed to help provide scientific explanations and answers to your gardening quandaries and queries in this column.

Gardening is also an art. I like cooking and gardening, probably because both activities give persons a lot of leeway to use their own methods and individuality to achieve successful results.

I hope I'll be hearing from readers about how their gardens grow. I've learned a lot from talking to other gardeners that I could never have learned from books, and I hope this column will be a place where others will share their expertise. Unlike cooks who will often keep a recipe secret, I've found gardeners to be more than willing to share their knowledge and successful methods.

The first thing I did after moving to Heath late last fall was to start a compost pile. I used old hay from our barn, manure left in the field by pastured cows and kitchen refuse, vegetable peelings, plate scrapings and the last two string beans in the pot that no one would eat.

Since it was winter not too much decomposition took place, but now that spring is finally here that pile is finished and cooking and I am starting to assemble my second compost pile. I look forward to the day I'll have several piles, like my neighbor who has a compost pile that is eight by 30 feet.

Compost is one of the most basic building blocks of a healthy garden. First it is a concentrated fertilizer. When you spread or dig compost in at the beginning of the season you are providing the nutrients that your plants will need. You are also feeding the soil and helping to maintain the rich bacterial life that aids plant health and growth.

Second, compost is a valuable soil conditioner. It adds necessary humus to sandy soils and helps to break up and lighten heavy clay soils.

There are many ways to build a compost pile, but most variations are based on the Indore Method developed by Sir Albert Howard over 50 years ago. It's a very simple process.

A compost pile can vary widely in size, but to work most efficiently it probably shouldn't be smaller than five by five feet. The process involves the layering of different kinds of organic material in a way that will encourage their quick decomposition into a rich, crumbly fertilizer.

First, start with a six-inch layer of vegetable matter. Use whatever you have or can get easily, leaves, grass clippings, weeds, kitchen garbage or plant refuse like harvested pea vines. Then add a two-inch layer of nitrogen rich material like animal manure, blood meal, bone meal or cottonseed meal. It is this layer of nitrogenous material that will get your pile cooking so don't be stingy. Top this with a layer of soil and a sprinkling of lime (or wood ashes) and phosphate rock.

Repeat this layering process until you have used all your materials. You don't have to finish assembling a pile in one day. You can add to it over a period of time. When your pile is about five feet tall, make a shallow depression in the top to catch rainfall. Moisture is vital to the decomposition process.

Air also speeds the process, so after each addition to my pile, I take a long pole and poke several holes deep into it to let air in.

As the pile decomposes, it builds up an internal heat which is sufficient to kill any weed seeds that are in the pile. When the heat begins to subside, after three or four weeks, it is time to turn the pile so that material on the outside gets pulled inside where decomposition takes place most rapidly.

In another four weeks the pile should be turned again. In three or four months you will have turned organic waste and refuse into extremely valuable fertilizer to be dug into your garden before planting or to use around your plants during the growing season.

It is possible to make compost in 14 days. The method is the same,

but you must shred all your leaves or hay, or whatever, with a rotary lawn mower or shredder. This will greatly speed the decomposition process. Be especially generous with nitrogenous materials like manure.

The pile should be turned on the fourth, seventh and 10th days. In 14 days it should be ready to use although the compost will not be as fine as that made over a longer period of time.

By making and using your own compost, you will not only be turning waste materials into valuable fertilizer, you will be taking giant steps towards successfully growing healthy plants in a healthy soil. □

**HOG  
HOLLOW**

*Silver & Gold*

Fine Jewelry  
Custom Work  
Repairs



209 Main St., Greenfield  
772-0859

 **FREE  
CONCERT**

**PIONEER  
SYMPHONY**

**Dr. Nathan Gottschalk  
Conducting**

This concert of popular  
and semi-classic music

*is presented by*

Northfield Mount Hermon School  
to honor area residents

*as part of our*

**CENTENNIAL  
NEIGHBORS' DAY  
CELEBRATION**

**SATURDAY  
MAY 24, 1980**

**8:00 p.m.**

**THE AUDITORIUM, NORTHFIELD**

As of Today  
The Week Begins  
On Thursday With . . .

# leisure

**magazine**

leisure, a lively and innovative weekly magazine exploring the many ways in which we all enjoy our free time.

leisure features . . .  
... complete calendar of events for the tri-state and tri-county area . . . and much more  
... Complete, accurate television listings  
... Feature articles on hobbies, outdoor activities, and crafts  
... Movie, book, and TV reviews  
... Much, much more

leisure, with it you can plan and better enjoy your free time for the entire week



leisure, coming to you every Thursday  
in your . . .

**GREENFIELD**  **RECORDER**

For Home Delivery Phone 772-0261