

THE BUGGETTE



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Bare in Mind by Dick Bare

Hi, Everyone! Last time we finished up with our stop at St. Petersburg. As promised, we're moving on to our next cruise destination, London. I once attended a convention in Stamford, Connecticut, and my wife suggested I visit New York City while I was there....

I retorted, "Why bother going to a big old dirty city? I'm from Youngstown... I'm familiar with Pittsburgh and Cleveland."

But I got to thinking and decided she was right. So the next day I took the train to NYC and was blown away by how cool it was. It was like Cleveland on steroids! And that's how I feel about London: It's like New York City on steroids.

We stayed at the Melia White House Hotel, conveniently located to many attractions by foot or by bus. Our first stop was beautiful Hyde Park. There are fountains, memorials, walkways, and people everywhere, with a huge lake at the center. There we visited Kensington Palace, the Albert Memorial, and the Princess Diana Memorial. Kensington Palace and the Princess Diana Memorial were underwhelming, but Kensington Gardens and the Albert Memorial were spectacular!

Prince Albert, born in Germany, married his cousin – Queen Victoria – in 1840. He deeply loved the Queen and the English people, and the English likewise hold him in high regard. During World War II, the British government painted the memorial black to make it less visible to Nazi bombers. I recommend reading about Prince Albert on Wikipedia: The story is quite a tearjerker and you will understand why this memorial was built for him.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Tis The Season For Thanking All Of You

From all of us at Arbor-Nomics to you, our valued customer:

We are grateful for your business and your trust, and we're sending you and your family our wishes for a happy, healthy new year.

Arbor-Nomics



Westminster Bridge, London

Did You Know . . .

Because snow is so fluffy (meaning it's chock full of air), a relatively small amount of water can translate into a huge pile of snow. An inch of rain on average makes about 10 inches of snow. The largest snowfall on record for Nashville was 17 inches, on March 17, 1892 (the lowest temperature was 17° below zero on January 21, 1985). Since the Farmers Almanac forecast for this winter predicts lower than average temperatures, keep those snow shovels handy!



Information & Specials

Please send your email address to info@arbor-nomicsnashville.com or call us at 329.4151 with your email address so we can send you quarterly lawn, tree and shrub updates and specials.



Fun Winter Facts

- Conspiracy theorists claim that Santa's iconic crimson and white ensemble actually originated with a marketing scheme by Coca-Cola in the 1930s, when the company featured a jolly, red-suited Santa Claus in its ads to boost sales during cold winter months.
- In 1847, a process was developed to allow confectioners to mold chocolate into shapes, paving the way for candy bars and chocolate Santas. In the 1920s, the first chocolate gelt was made, allowing Jewish families to use candy in lieu of actual coins for the custom of giving money to their children during Hanukkah. Today, the winter holidays rank third, behind Halloween and Easter, in terms of U.S. candy sales.
- The first candy canes were created in 1670 by a German choirmaster, who gave out all-white sugar sticks—bent like the shape of a shepherd's staff—to keep children in his congregation occupied between hymns.
- In 1931, construction workers raised a 20-foot tree on the muddy site that would become Rockefeller Center. They had no idea that, more than 70 years later, tens of thousands of people would crowd the sidewalks for the ceremonial lighting, which features 30,000 bulbs attached to 5 miles of wiring.



A Funny Way with Words



A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.

- A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.
- What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead give away.)
- Dijon vu - feeling like you've had the same mustard before
- Practice safe eating: Always use condiments.
- A shotgun wedding is a case of wife or death.
- A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy.



A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.

- She was engaged to a man with a wooden leg but broke it off.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.
- If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.
- The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.



A hangover is the wrath of grapes.

- Dancing cheek-to-cheek is really a form of floor play.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.



You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

Source: http://glo.msn.com/relationships/holiday-fun-facts-7644.gallery#1stackState=0__%2Frelationships%2Fholiday-fun-facts-7644.gallery%3FphotoId%3D76406

- Following the 1965 Watts Riots, in L.A., Maulana Karenga, Ph.D., professor and chairman of Africana Studies at California State University, Long Beach, founded Kwanzaa as a way to unify the African-American community. Swahili for "fresh fruits," Kwanzaa



was inspired by traditional African harvest celebrations.

Source: <http://glo.msn.com>

Tips for Fall & Winter Lawn Care



Raise the Height of Your Mower

For warm season grasses, you need to gradually raise the height of the mower deck about a 1/2" above your usual height. The increased height allows the grass to make and store more food so it can nourish itself when it comes out of dormancy in the spring.



Remove Leaves and Other Debris from Your Lawn

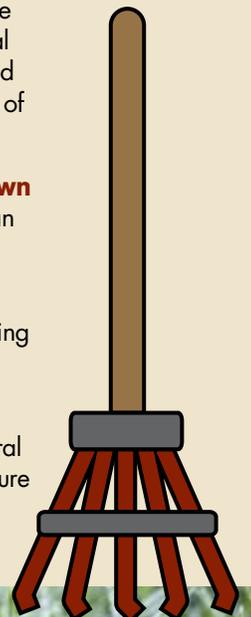
Leaving any kind of debris, like leaves, on your grass can smother it and promote winter or early spring diseases.

Water Fescue

Fescue lawns should receive 1" of water each week during the growing season.

Mulch Trees & Shrubs

Let fallen leaves collect around the base of trees and shrubs to form a natural mulch. This protective covering helps keep the ground at a stable temperature and reduces moisture evaporation from the soil. Additionally, the materials in the mulch enrich the soil around the plant as they break down.



Application #7

What we did to your lawn today:

1. **Fescue, Bermuda and Zoysia** lawns received weed control, as needed, to minimize weed growth during the winter. All lawns received a calcium and magnesium application to maintain the pH balance in your soil. Turf grasses grow best in a neutral soil environment (approximately 5.5-6.5 pH). Natural processes tend to make it more acidic over time. This application helps restore the neutral condition of your soil so your grass will grow better next spring.
2. **Centipede** lawns received weed control to prevent various fall and winter weeds. It also received a potassium fertilizer to enhance the root structure so your grass grows stronger and thicker.
3. Fungicides are not included in any of our applications, but it would be a good idea to put a fungicide on **Zoysia**, especially if your lawn is prone to patch disease. Call us for a free estimate.

What you need to do until our next visit

1. Even during the winter, your Fescue lawn should receive about an 1" of water each week. Rain during the winter months is usually enough, but if it doesn't rain, do some additional watering.
2. Remove leaves regularly from your lawn. They can smother your grass and create problems with winter or early spring diseases.
3. Gradually increase the height of your mower about a 1/2" above your usual height for warm season grasses. The increased height will help the grass to make more food to store so it can nourish itself when it comes out of dormancy in the spring.

If you have any questions concerning your lawn, trees, shrubs or our service, please call our Customer Service Department Monday – Friday, 7:00am-4:00pm at **329.4151**. If you call after hours, please leave a message and your call will be returned the following business day.



Helpful Phone Numbers

MAIN NUMBER

329.4151

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AREA MANAGER

Joel Holcomb, ext 1127

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Please enter the amount on your invoice in dollars and cents below. If you don't have your payment information handy, you can call or email us and we'll tell you what your balance is.

Before you submit your payment, would you like any extra services this month?

- Yes, I want to receive an estimate for a spring aeration.
- Yes, I want to schedule a spring aeration.
- Yes, I want to receive an estimate to upgrade my lawn service (Silver Program) to lawn, ornamental tree & shrub (Gold Program) and receive 4 FREE Outdoor Pest Control treatments.
- Yes, I'd like to receive an estimate to upgrade my lawn, ornamental tree & shrub service (Gold Program) to Platinum, which includes aeration, fungicide treatments, 4 FREE Outdoor Pest Control, grassy weed treatment and more.



You can pay your Arbor-Nomics invoice online. It's secure, easy and quick. Just go to www.arbor-nomicsnashville.com and click on **Pay Your Bill**.

What did the hat say to the scarf?

You hang around while I go on a head.





Big Ben, London

From Hyde Park, we walked to Buckingham Palace, which is just incredible! There is always a sea of visitors outside, and the Changing of the Guards ceremony is especially interesting. Today, the palace is actually a memorial to Queen Victoria, great-great grandmother of Queen Elizabeth II. But it was originally known as the Buckingham House, a large townhouse built for the Duke of Buckingham in 1705. It's been enlarged over the years, with its latest remodeling in 1913.

After Prince Albert's death, Queen Victoria was so grief stricken that she avoided being there as much as possible. There were periods when the Palace remained shuttered and was not maintained. In 1864 it even bore a sign stating, "These commanding premises to be let or sold, in consequence of the occupant's declining business." In 1901, the accession of King Edward VII breathed new life into the Palace. The King and his wife, Queen Alexandra, began entertaining again and redesigned much of the interior in belle époque style, which remains today.

The Palace contains 19 state rooms, 52 principal bedrooms, 188 staff bedrooms, 92 offices, and 78 bathrooms. This may seem large, but it is actually quite small compared to the Russian Imperial Palace in St. Petersburg, the Papal Palace in Rome, and a host of others around the world. The Potala Palace in Tibet, for example, is 13 stories high and has over 1000 rooms.

Speaking of size, for lunch we stopped at a deli that had great food and service, but was very small. The differences between Europe and America are really interesting. While back home, we have large restaurants with ample spacing around each table, the tables in this deli were right next to each other. Plus in each country, we had to learn the rules on tipping. In Spain, for instance, no tipping was required. (I also find it interesting that in Spain, McDonald's and KFC serve beer and wine.)

Next stop: Tower of London. This is very interesting, especially if you enjoy stories about beheadings. Guides in striking red uniforms, looking like British soldiers, lead small groups around the large complex, sharing humorous stories about what took place at the different spots.

The grounds are really beautiful, with some of the best strands of grass I've ever seen. There are also seven captive ravens there. These are big, fat birds whose wings are clipped so they can't fly off. According to legend, King Charles II heard a prophesy that the Tower would fall if ravens were allowed to fly away, prompting him to clip the

wings of several of the birds. The tradition continues to this day and the Tower staff includes a Ravenmaster.

Some notable prisoners at the Tower include Anne Boleyn, wife of Henry VIII who was beheaded for failing to bear any children, and Sir Walter Raleigh. Raleigh was one of the longest serving prisoners, at 13 years. Before becoming a prisoner, he was a soldier and explorer who engineered the ill-fated English colony at Roanoke Island. He was knighted by Elizabeth I in 1585 and became one of the Queen's favorite courtiers. He fell out of favor, however, for secretly wedding a Miss Throckmorton, one of the Queen's maids of honor. He was eventually beheaded for plotting against King James I.

The list continues with Prince Edward and Richard of Shrewsbury, two boys who were heirs to the British throne. They were imprisoned after their father, King Edward IV, died, apparently for being potential monarchs. Within a year of arriving, they disappeared without a trace. Their Uncle Richard, who aspired to be King Richard III, is believed to have murdered them. Nearly 200 years later, skeletons that could have been the boys were found, fueling speculation they were disposed of by their Uncle Richard. What people won't do for power.

While there's no way of knowing if the boys would have met their fate at the gallows had they not disappeared, there are two other noteworthy prisoners who were not executed. One, Rudolf Hess, second in command to Hitler, simply died in prison. Guy Fawkes, more spectacularly, escaped hanging in the nick of time by leaping from the gallows and dying from a broken neck.

After a good dose of gallows humor, our bus brought us over the London Bridge to the London Eye on the banks of the Thames. This amazing ride is basically a Ferris wheel that stands 443 feet tall. The lines were too long for us, but it was fascinating to just gaze at this magnificent machine. I hear the views are breathtaking, revealing all the magic of London. The ride takes 35 minutes and is apparently so smooth you never feel how scary high up you are.



Buckingham Palace, London

Our next stop was St. Paul's Cathedral, which sits atop Ludgate Hill, the highest point of London. Its dedication to St. Paul the Apostle dates back to the original church on this site in AD 604. The current church, built in the 17th century, is the work of Christopher Wren. It was the tallest building in London from 1710 to 1962, and its dome remains among the tallest in the world. Winston Churchill and Margaret Thatcher, among other luminaries, were eulogized there, and it is also where Charles and Diana were married.

Next we moseyed on over to Harrods Department Store. There's so much to see and it's so ornate you feel like you're in a temple. I was especially taken by the food: Beautiful, expert displays of baked goods, desserts, fish, and meats. And I got to see something unexpected: A butcher backed up into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work. Honestly, I could spend a week just in this store. But if you ever make it to London, I do recommend taking in all the sights.

