



The Family Room

By: Dr. Roy Don Whitehead

Children Often Do Not Appreciate

Diane had been Christmas shopping for hours. (All characters are fictitious.) From one discount store to another she and her six-year-old daughter Amy searched the aisles. Gifts were piled in the basket. Sometimes Diane even managed to sneak in a gift for Amy without her knowing.

Finally, Amy began to cry, "I want to go home." Diane calmly told Amy that they only had one more stop to make and then they could go home. When Amy continued to cry, Diane lost it, "I do all this Christmas shopping for you, and you don't even appreciate it! I have a good mind to just put these presents back. Santa won't bring anything to a little girl who doesn't appreciate her mommy."

Don had a similar problem with his eight-year-old son Eric. "He has a bad attitude," Don complained. "We provide well for him. He has all kinds of toys. We take him where

ever he needs to go, but when we say no to something, he stubs up and pouts. It looks to me like he would appreciate all that we do for him."

The complaint that these parents make is not the fault of the children. CHILDREN USUALLY DO NOT APPRECIATE WHAT THEIR PARENTS DO FOR THEM. Parents who expect appreciation have unrealistic expectations and are doomed to frustration. Perhaps children "should" appreciate all their parents do for them, but the fact is that they usually do not.

Why do they not appreciate parents? For the same reason that parents do not appreciate their children: they are accustomed to it and take it for granted. Children are the same way with

parents. They have known their parents, loving care since birth and do not even think about it. They assume its existence the same way adults assume the existence of air. Most children do not know what it is like to be without loving parents and thus treat their parents the same way adults treat the air.

Parents sometimes look to their children to fill their own needs. A parent who does not feel loved or appreciated may expect that from his or her child. In the parent's subconscious mind, the child is there to fulfill his or her unmet needs. This is not fair to the child. Children were not put here to fulfill the needs of their parents, but rather parents were put here to love and nurture their children into adulthood. The parent is the giver, and the child is the taker and that is the way it is meant to be.

There certainly can be a lot of satisfaction and love that come from a child to a parent. However, this is a by-product of the child-rearing process and not the goal. The goal is for the parent to rear a happy, healthy child, not for the child to bring satisfaction to the parent.

If Diane and Don want appreciation, they need to wait awhile. Appreciation usually comes only after the child becomes an adult and sees the world in a different way. When Amy and Eric are thirty-five and have children of their own, they may express much appreciation to Mom and Dad for all they did. Even some children in their late teens and twenties express their thanks. As they get older and see what the world is really like, the children no longer take Mom and Dad for granted. Then they might just stop and say, "Thank you."

Yards to Paradise

By: Max Phelps

Landscaping - Reasons Why You Might Want Some!

Why DO people landscape around their homes? Here are some reasons I have thought of, perhaps you will think of others.

One desirable reason to landscape is it generally improves the look of the home as one drives up or passes by. This is often referred to as curb appeal.

Pride or "Keeping up with the Joneses" is sometimes the reason for landscaping. (I wonder about a homeowner or tenant who lives in a house with no landscaping or maybe one or two maple trees on a street that has many nicely landscaped yards.)

Realtors know a quick (and possibly tax deductible) "fix-up" can help move a property. A landscape update can improve a home's marketability.

Landscaping adds value. Usually dollars spent on landscaping are fully returned in dollar value of the home. But the greater value of landscaping is in the improved appearance and livability of a home and yard.

A pleasing view, a relaxing view, from the owner's personal point of view is a reason to landscape. Whether it is as one drives up, looks out of a morning, or sits on a porch, deck or other vista and relaxes as he looks out over his own paradise, landscaping does suitably to one's personal taste can be a truly satisfying facet of our lives.

Some of us landscape to have more privacy. Whether hedges, pri-

vacy fences, or just well-sited trees and shrubs scattered about can landscape clothes our homes. It can hide or show off some things to best advantage to passersby or to the folks who reside in the house.

Relaxation on a patio, in a gazebo, by a pond or waterfall are reasons to landscape.

Some folks love to entertain at home. Be it family get-togethers, friends or for business. Outdoor grills, patios, pools... yes, especially those outdoor rooms that seem to make our homes larger. Landscaping with entertainment in mind makes sense.

And the ultimate reason to landscape is to create that "vacation Paradise" in our own backyards. So much can be said for spending vacation dollars on a paradise to be enjoyed all the time.

Perhaps other reasons besides these are popping into your mind by now. That is the objective I hoped for. Write down your thoughts and make a plan of action. May you be inspired to create a little paradise in your yard.

The author is a free-lance writer and landscaper. Your suggestions are always welcome. Contact by visiting www.rockcastles.com and leaving a message.

"District Court"

(Cont. from B-2)

Sammy D. Stewart: Speeding, \$30 and costs.

Karen E. Swinney: Failure to wear seatbelt, \$25 and cost.

Marty C. Taylor: No/Exp. Reg. Receipt, dismissed on payment of court costs.

Kenny J. Turner: Speeding and No other state reg. receipt, license suspended for failure to appear.

Christina Vallareale: Wanton endangerment, dismissed on payment of court costs.

Tiney D. Weaver: No/Exp. Reg. Receipt, dismissed on payment of court costs; Failure to wear seatbelt, \$25 fine.

Christina M. Abney: Hunt/Fish/Trap w/o license/stamp, paid.

Kwecien Andrzej: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Scottie D. Berryman: Speeding, paid/state traffic school authorized.

Deborah Blake: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Joshua Brummet: No operators license and Failure to wear seatbelt; license suspended/warrant issued.

Jacqueline M. Bryant: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

James C. Bryant, Jr.: Disregarding stop sign, \$20 and costs.

Abreyse E. Chapman: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Leslie A. Crosby: Speeding, costs paid.

Joseph A. Dawson: Failure to use child restraint and Failure to wear seatbelt, paid.

Ragan R. Freitag: Speeding, paid.

Leonie Giuseppe: Speeding, costs paid.

Timothy L. Goldy: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Clell T. Gooch, Jr.: Motorboats registered-numbered, \$25 and costs/ fine suspended.

James B. Harris: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Christopher Honeycutt: Speeding, paid.

Kathy L. Howard: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Raymond L. Howard: Hunt/Fish/Trap w/o Lic/Stamp, \$25 and costs.

Patricia J. Jackson: Required flotation equipment, paid.

Cheryl L. Johnson: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Stephanie R. Jones: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

John Lewis S. Kirby: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Robin S. Merritt: Speeding, \$30 and costs/suspended fine/state traffic school authorized.

Scott A. Miller: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Chance D. Moody: Speeding, state traffic school.

Dustin E. Ohlman: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Noah D. Oliver: Failure to wear seatbelt (2 counts), license suspended for failure to appear.

Ronnie D. Sizemore, II: Overwidth and Overlength, license suspended for failure to appear.

Jeffrey S. Thompson: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Dale W. White: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Timothy D. Retner: Contempt of court, 90 days in lieu of payment (\$899.35).

Barbara A. Slye: Disorderly conduct, \$25 and costs.

Robert Lee Slye: Disorderly conduct, \$25 and costs.

Shelia Wilson: Theft by deception, \$10 and costs and 10 days/conditionally discharged one year.

Michael Blair: Theft by deception, \$10 and costs and 10 days/conditionally discharged one year; Theft by deception, \$10 fine and 10 days consecutive; Theft by deception, \$10 fine and 10 days consecutive; Contempt of court, \$100 fine; Fines due (\$1978.5), 7 days in lieu of payment consecutive; Theft by deception, \$10 and costs and 10 days/conditionally discharged.

Classified deadline is Noon Tuesday

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