

Dan's Letter™

"Please...let me introduce you to my mind...one article at a time."



FROM THE DESK OF DAN ANDERSON

Not-So-Secret Secrets To Success

You can reach your career goals with focus and determination—and this advice from The Seattle Times:

- **Pick one positive quality to emphasize.** Assess your strengths and decide which one suits you best. People will associate you with your strongest ability and call on you when they need it.
- **Be reliable.** Always finish what you commit to, without excuses. People want to depend on you, and when they know you're going to follow through, they'll call on you more often.
- **Act ethically.** When you're asked to do something unethical or dishonest, decline politely but firmly. Assess whether you may be in the wrong job or working with the wrong people.
- **Treat everyone with respect.** From the janitor to the CEO, show everyone the same degree of respect you expect for yourself. You never know whose assistance you'll need, and being nice to people is a good investment in your future.
- **Don't be afraid to ask questions.** If something is unclear, ask for clarification. You'll get in more trouble for making mistakes due to misunderstanding than by asking questions up front.

- Dan A.



SPRING AWAKENING:

Expert Tips To Renew
Your Lawn

(BPT) - As a homeowner, now is the perfect time to start thinking about lawn care again. Spring is your first - and best - opportunity to get your outdoor living space in top shape for the warmer months ahead. And depending on where you live in the U.S., that window begins whenever the soil starts warming.

To help you get ready for a healthy, lush green lawn this spring, TruGreen, America's #1 lawn care company, shares five things you should do.

1) Start with a spring cleanup: Spring cleaning isn't just for the inside of your home. Your lawn has collected fallen leaves, sticks and other debris over the winter months. Leaving behind this plant matter can smother the growth of your lawn and leave behind unsightly dead patches on the turf. A cleanup will give your lawn room to breathe, so it can take in water and sunshine, as well as any fertilizer or weed control treatments.

2) Clean up the mower: Spring is also time to dust off the lawn mower, fill it with fresh fuel and get your first mow. The first mowing of the season removes dead blades of grass and encourages the lawn to start waking from its winter slumber.

3) Get a step ahead of weed growth: The return of crabgrass is not something to look forward to, however, the good news is, you can

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get these and other unsightly weeds under control by applying a treatment before they start popping up around your lawn. But keep in mind, it's important to get the timing just right.

"Timing is critical when it comes to applying preventative weed treatments," says Brian Feldman, TruGreen's Director of Technical Operations - North. "Treatment should be applied under very specific soil and temperature conditions. Otherwise, it won't work and you'll end up wasting both product and effort."

To take the guesswork out of weed control, consulting with a lawn care professional - such as TruGreen - can bring you peace of mind and deliver desired results.

4) Nourish your lawn: Spring presents yet another important window of opportunity to achieve a thick, healthy lawn. After being dormant all winter, it will need a dose of food to help it spring back to life and start growing.

Because by summer, your turf will be facing many stresses - heat, drought, insects and disease. A light application of fertilizer can help your lawn take full advantage of spring growth and have it at its best. Don't forget your trees and shrubs, too! The amount of fertilizer needed varies with the

age and where your trees and shrubs are located, so contact a professional for expert treatment.

5) Set a simple watering schedule: Regular rainfall is optimal for healthy grass. But when the sun is beating down and it's been more than a week since the last rainfall, you'll need to supplement the lack of rain with a sprinkler. Luckily, you can keep it simple as most lawns will thrive and grow with one inch of water per week. To keep track, set a few empty tuna cans around the lawn. When they get full - indicating an inch of water - you can move the sprinkler to a different section. Trees and shrubs also need some watering TLC; keep them hydrated also, particularly when temperatures start to spike.

It's important to remember that every state and region has unique grass and plant types that present their own needs and challenges. Yet, a thick, green lawn you will feel proud of is closer than you think. Call your local lawn professional and they'll create a plan that's tailor-made for your outdoor living space to get it into great shape this spring.

TruGreen prides itself on designing a lawn-care experience founded on customer needs and rooted in science. To find a professional in your region, visit TruGreen.com.



WAYS TO SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES



(BPT) - The COVID-19 pandemic has been difficult on small businesses.

"Small businesses are the heart of our country and Ball® home canning products business," says Kris Malkoski, CEO of the Food Business Unit at Newell Brands. "We have been moved by the love our small business customers have shown their communities this past year. Still many small businesses are facing hardships and they need our support now more than ever."

You can personally help make a difference by considering simple ways to support small businesses:

Shop now: No need to wait for a sale or special event. By shopping now you're putting much-needed funds into a small business that is depending on income each month to make ends meet and keep doors open.

Go online: For small businesses that offer e-commerce options, be sure to consider online orders that ship directly to your home. This is a safe and convenient way to support your favorite businesses.

Shop in person: For businesses with physical locations, visit shops in person if you can use proper safety measures. If you know what you want, many businesses let you order ahead and opt for curbside or doorway pickup as well.

Consider gift cards: Not sure what to buy? Gift cards are always one of the most desired gifts, so if you need to send

a little love to a loved one, wrap up a gift certificate in a beautiful card and feel good about your present choice.

Leave reviews: Online reviews can make a big difference for small businesses in expanding clientele. Go online and leave rave reviews for your favorite stores and why others should support them as well to help spread the word.

Double up: For businesses like independent coffee shops or bakeries, consider a larger order. For example, go with that grande latte and order two dozen cookies to share with your neighbors.

Be patient: Small businesses are dealing with a multitude of challenges these days, from supply chain holdups to sluggish shipping and beyond. Your kindness is valued and your patience is crucial during these times.

"Actions big and small will help make a difference," says Malkoski. "This is our time to give back to the businesses that help build our culture and communities, and we at Newell Brands want to give back too."

Stay Safe In The Sky

The country may be slowly beginning a return to normal, but a lot of us are still nervous about traveling by air. Flying requires an extra level of caution. The Los Angeles Times shares this advice for flying safely:

- **Look at seating policies.**

Choose an airline that doesn't cram people right next to each other, and that takes mask precautions seriously. If necessary, consider buying a separate ticket for the seat next to you.

- **Mask up at the airport.** You'll be in long lines to check in and go through security. Don't relax your mask discipline. Keep your distance from other



passengers on the jet bridge as you board.

- **Sanitize your seating area.** Wipe down armrests, the table in front of you, your seatbelt, and anything else you'll be touching during the flight. Point the air nozzle at your face so it blows particles away from you.

- **Eat carefully.** Some people remove their masks to eat or drink and then leave

them off, even though they're supposed to put them back on. If you must eat or drink, wait until the people around you are finished before pushing your mask down, and pull it right back up between every bite or swallow. Sip beverages through a straw beneath your mask.

TAKE A BREAK!

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Irish Potato Bites

Ingredients

20 Red potatoes, small (golf ball size)
 1/2 cup Corned beef
 1/4 cup Cheddar cheese, shredded
 1 tablespoon Butter, melted
 1/8 teaspoon Salt
 Sour cream, (optional)

Fill a large pot with water and bring it to a boil.
 Add potatoes and boil until they are fork tender.

Preheat oven to 400°F

Once potatoes are cooked and have cooled cut each one in half and cut a small slice off of the rounded end so the potato can sit up. Scoop out the inside of each potato half saving the potato insides in a bowl. Add cheese, corned beef, butter to the bowl with the saved potato insides.

Salt mixture to taste. Also sprinkle some salt over the potato halves. Scoop mixture into potato halves and then place them on a baking sheet. Place baking sheet in oven for 10 minutes. Remove from oven and serve with a dollop of sour cream. Enjoy!

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Car Emblems and Their Meaning

The iconic British automaker Aston Martin, founded by Lionel Martin and Robert Bamford back in 1913, is one of the most well known sports car brands in the world and its got an emblem that rises to the brand's fame.

The founders were initially selling Singer cars in their Bamford & Martin shop before having the idea of producing their own automobiles.



ASTON MARTIN

A few years later, their name changed into Aston Martin Motors, a combination between Martin's name and the Aston Clinton Hillclimb in Buckinghamshire, where Lionel Martin used to have fun driving now and then.

The Aston Martin logo, has evolved across time but kept the same underlying motif, the wings – and the speed they denote. Initially a simple superimposed A and M letters in a circle, it

evolved into a V shaped winged logo in 1927 and into the modern version in 1987. Today, its straight wings and the Aston Martin name right in the front and center make it one of the most elegant car brand emblems to date.