

# Lawn and Garden Gazette

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"**Just got home from** Illinois, lock the front door, oh boy, Got to sit down, take a rest on the porch." Actually I've been back long enough that "Michigan seems like a dream to me now"...**We apparently brought** some Midwest humidity back with us. Would have rather had a good Chicago pizza (thin crust, mind you). Or a few fireflies... **Back there they joke** about the notion of dry heat. But the day we left I was sweating coming out of the shower. No joke... "**The old home town** looks the same, As I step down from the train." Not even close. Almost needed a map to get around. And don't even get me started on the traffic. What can I say, its a great place to be FROM... **Hot days, warm winds,** and long periods without rain have the lawns struggling. If you decide yours needs more water, add minutes to the days you presently water, not more days. Getting that water down deep will help it get thru this warm spell AND those yet to come...**Its been so hot** cows are giving evaporated milk... **Had your first homegrown** tomato yet? If so, please don't gloat. I'm still waiting. Patiently. Or maybe not. The few cherry tomatoes to date are delicious, but just can't drip down your chin as well... **When they start ripening,** one of the first things we like to make is caprese salad. Nothing more than slices of tomato and mozzarella, and a little fresh basil. Drizzle a little olive oil, have a piece of bread and a glass of wine ready and...um...Sorry my mind wandered there a bit...**Came home to a garden cov-**

**ered by weeds and dill.** Tons of dill, but just a few cukes so far. Never have been able to coordinate those very well. Guess that's why they make fridges and freezers, but I digress... **Hidden under it** all were the first signs the struggle was worth it. Summer squash, onions, pickles, beans and even a few peppers. Truly a labor of love from here on out...**Its been so hot** trees are whistling' for the dogs...**Dog Days of summer?** Don't complain, things could be worse. The Romans use to sacrifice a brown dog this time of year in hopes of beating the heat...**Last month's answer was the Chicago Blackhawks.** Several knew that, but only **Joe Harris** shot the puck...**Onions forming a flower** on top? Use those first as they won't store well... **I know its early,** but check those cabbage heads., and pick them if you see any signs of cracking... **That smile on Mom's** face no one can explain? Simple. School's starting soon. Time to note those flashing yellow lights again... **Its been so hot** chickens are laying hard-boiled eggs...**Four sets of lyrics** throughout. Name the singer of any to get into this month's drawing... **The evening of August 8, 1974 President Nixon** quit. That same evening a young couple celebrated that AND their 4th anniversary. Being too stubborn to quit, we remain married to this day. So, in a few days we'll celebrate 40 years of wedded bliss. Without ever having a fight! OK, maybe a few hundred, but who's counting... **Hey, leave it to** the Cubs to get the Rox back on track...**Keep cool!**

**"I hope you don't mind that I put down in words  
How wonderful life is while you're in the world"**