 Millions of families are eligible for low-income Internet access and computers.

Knowledge Is Power

Social Networks Can Make Learning Meaningful

(NAPSA)—Many believe that one of the benefits of using the Internet is the opportunity for what’s known as social learning—a chance to discover videos, books, blogs and other media authored by category experts. A few sites present valuable information, whether you’re going back to school or simply want to keep your mind active.

For example, Learni st is a new social network focused on peer-to-peer learning. It’s designed to help anyone, anywhere, discover fresh ideas, insights and shareable insights with like-minded individuals. It achieves this by offering a series of lessons on a particular topic that can enhance the user’s learning process.

What You Can Learn

Users have added close to 500,000 posts to Learni st, which has yielded a million page views each month. Education, technology, food and beverage, and health have yielded a million page views by category experts. A few sites include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest and Skype.

There’s a social learning site that makes it easy to share what you know and learn from others.

Anyone, regardless of income, education or geography, can learn a new skill or talent and share what he or she knows by creating “Learnist Learnboards” from the best blogs, videos, audio, Twitter feeds, slide shows and other Web resources.

The platform allows users to simply click on the title of the “learnist,” which takes users directly to the original Web page and allows them to leave comments, ask questions and share the things that interest them.

The platform is also available on the iPhone, iPad and Android. The platform allows users to easily browse and share content.

Learning Is The Point

Learni st is designed to enhance a variety of educational experiences, providing instantaneous access to a rich social network that makes use of a variety of resources and media.

Learn More

To learn more, visit http://learni st.com/category/featured.

Modern Technology Simplifies Yard Maintenance

(NAPSA)—You can significantly reduce your time spent maintaining your yard by employing modern mowing technology.

Compared to older tractor-style mowers, modern mid-mower zero-turn riding mowers are much faster, with enhanced maneuverability. This lets them be more productive and versatile, as the “turn on a dime” handling means operators can trim the landscape features and deftly navigate around flowerbeds.

Instead of the traditional gear-box, a zero-turn rider uses a system of hydraulic pumps and wheel motors to power the forewheels and backward at variable speeds of up to 16 mph. The zero-turn radius is achieved with independent hydro motors on each drive wheel, which allow one wheel to run forward simultaneously as the other turns inward. When combined with freely rotating caster wheels ahead of the cutting deck, the system allows for a zero-turning radius and a heightened level of control.

“Turf and rocks, time is almost more valuable than money,” said Darryn Lucas, owner of Lucas Landscaping.

“The switch from a tractor-style mower to a mid-mower zero-turn riding mower is a huge advantage for us. It really reduces the time it takes to care for the yard. Not only do users have more freedom, they don’t have to worry about the unmatched cut quality delivers a professionally maintained appearance.”

Walters noted that zero-turn riders are the dominant mower type for professional landscape contractors and the virtues for which contractors choose the NLS also apply to those who want to improve their home maintenance.

The latest news is that most mowers can be found at www.homeandgarden.com.

The new mystery series by Mary Jane Clark (above) features a visually impaired character inspired by a real-life reader.

Visually Impaired Reader Inspires Author

(NAPSA)—Four years ago, bestselling author Mary Jane Clark spoke at the Friends of the New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped’s Fall Festival. There, she met Ottile Lucas, a former rehabilitation teacher for people with macular degeneration and other disabilities who is visually impaired herself.

According to Clark, “we continued our correspondence and one thing led to another,” Lucas says of Clark. “She decided to include a character in her next book with macular degeneration.”

And so was born Terri Donovan, introduced in the first book in Clark’s new mystery series, 2011’s “To Have and To Kill.”

“Mary Jane asked me to give her ways to identify symptoms that a person may be experiencing macular degeneration,” Lucas says. Those include blurred vision and difficulty in seeing the intensity of colors—symptoms shared by Clark.

Lucas, who runs a bakery and is the mother of the protagonist of Clark’s series, struggles with Vision Impaired.

Lucas, who was born with retinitis pigmentosa, became a partner to help set up the New Jersey Library Talking Book and Braille Center in 1969. She helped open the program in the country.

NLS oversees a free reading program for residents in the United States, including 900,000 low-income Americans—people with macular degeneration.

The NLS also offers the Portableplayer service, which allows 500,000 posts to Learni st, which has yielded a million page views by category experts. A few sites include Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest and Skype.

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An aqueduct is a bridge which is designed to carry Water, The Pont du Gard, for example, was built by the Romans nearly two thousand years ago.

Human jaw muscles can gener ate a force of 200 pounds on the molars.

Despite its hump, a camel has a straight spine.

There are a number of consid erations that factor into the ultimate value of the mower. Mower owners, including higher-horsepower engines, wider cutting decks and necessary bagging sys tems are available.

Bigger isn’t always better, however, and it makes sense to choose an appropriate zero-turn mower for the property. When selecting a mid-mower zero-turn riding mower, consider overall size, landscape and budget.

More guidelines on selecting the right mower for a property can be found at www.exmark.com/ NotSureWhatToBuy.aspx.

The latest mowers can help the grass be greener on your side of the fence without the worry of having to spend a lot of time.