

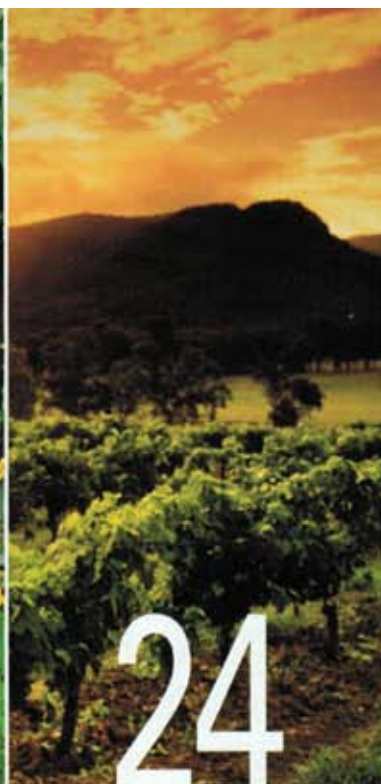
# GOODLIFE

SEPTEMBER 2010

## PERFECT *pairing*

Discover Australian wine,  
Finger Lakes cheese

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# How to choose a landscaper

## Expert opinion

### A new feature

This month, we are introducing a new feature, Expert Opinion.

Each month, GoodLife will seek out expert advice, locally, on the finer things in life. We welcome both questions from our readers, and offers to share expertise.

To send a question or offer your services, contact Bob Jamieson via e-mail at [bjamieso@gannett.com](mailto:bjamieso@gannett.com)

When landscape designers examine a property, they take a holistic approach to formulate a plan, examining the existing landscape, the residence, and the lifestyle of the client. Here are ways that Nicole Scott recommends checking out a landscape designer:

- ▶ Look at homes you admire in the area and ask the owners who did their landscaping.
- ▶ Study the landscaping firm's website.
- ▶ Visit the sites where the company is working.
- ▶ Ask for recommendations.

An individual's state license or membership in a professional organization such as the American

### Meet our expert

Nicole Scott has a bachelor's degree in horticulture and a master's degree in landscape architecture from Cornell University. She is currently completing the New York state examination to become a licensed landscape architect. Before joining her husband's firm, Scott Land & Yard Services, as a landscape designer, she worked on projects for Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C., and vineyards in the Finger Lakes.



Society of Landscape Architects indicates that the landscaper meets certain standards in education and ascribes to a code of professional practice. With a state-licensed landscape architect, the landscaper, not the property owner, is liable for harm from an installation.

Scott said most of her residential business comes through word-of-mouth and references from customers. Once contacted, she will ask the prospective client to complete a site analysis questionnaire. This starts the client thinking about a number of basic issues such as:

- ▶ Family's interest and activities, which influences how property is used.
- ▶ The needs of children and pets.
- ▶ Entryway aspect, such as driveway,

parking area, lighting and walkways.

▶ Outdoor living preferences, such as a deck, patio, permanent seating, pool, lighting, and the scale of entertaining.

▶ Gardening preferences, such as trees, shrubs, flowers and vegetables.

▶ Maintenance – will homeowners do the work or hire out.

▶ General mood, style and theme desired.

Following the analysis, comes an hour-long consultation at the site to discuss the basic plan, time frame, level of service and the project budget.

*Scott can be contacted through the Scott Land & Yard Services, Slaterville Springs. Call 327-2023 or visit [www.scottscapene.net](http://www.scottscapene.net).*

"All we do is tailored to the client's needs ... our goal is to provide a healthy, beautiful landscape. We communicate about the proper care and we are always available to answer questions or concerns."

NICOLE SCOTT

**GREAT VALUE.  
GREAT TIMES.**

<p><b>SUMMER CONCERT</b></p> <p><b>SEPTEMBER 2 • 8PM</b> Charlie Daniels Band *Tickets start at \$20</p> <p><small>*Tickets available at <a href="http://ticketmaster.com">ticketmaster</a> and the Tioga Downs Casino Gift Shop. Outdoor Events • no refunds or exchanges due to weather related cancellations.</small></p>	<p><b>LAST DAY OF RACING</b></p> <p><b>SEPTEMBER 11 • 6:50PM</b> Win a 2009 Nissan Versa Tribute to 9/11 • FIREWORKS \$10,000 Mystery Voucher Giveaway That's My Driver</p>
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