

Color Smart
Choose the right hues for
your home's interior

Gourmet Gardening

Add flavor to your meals with homegrown herbs

Plus 100s of Resources

For your home and garden

What's Underfoot?

Explore the latest options in flooring

expert tips >> maintenance checklist >> monthly garden planner design ideas >> hot home products >> local events

contributors



Bill Leisy, president of Masterworks Construction Services Inc., has been in the building industry for more than 30 years. Besides his vast experience in construction, design and landscaping, Leisy also taught high school woodworking, carpentry and drafting before starting his own successful

remodeling business in 1992. This month, Leisy shares seasonal maintenance tips (page 33), office@mworksconstruction.com

Yvonne Darlene Savio is the program manager of the Common Ground Garden Program for the University of California Cooperative Extension office in Los Angeles County. Through the program, Master Gardener volunteers, Fresh From the Garden volunteers and School Garden



consultants help low-income county residents grow and eat more nutritious vegetables. Savio shares her gardening knowhow with the Garden Planner (page 30). http://celosangeles. ucdavis.edu/Common_Ground_Garden_Program/



Mary Kay Woodworth is a gardening expert and landscaping association leader who has served as a Master Gardener coordinator and owned her own landscape consulting firm. In this issue, Woodworth offers insights into herb gardening (page 26). malta@ mindspring.com

BATH BEFORES-AND-AFTERS

Dramatic transformations from area remodelers

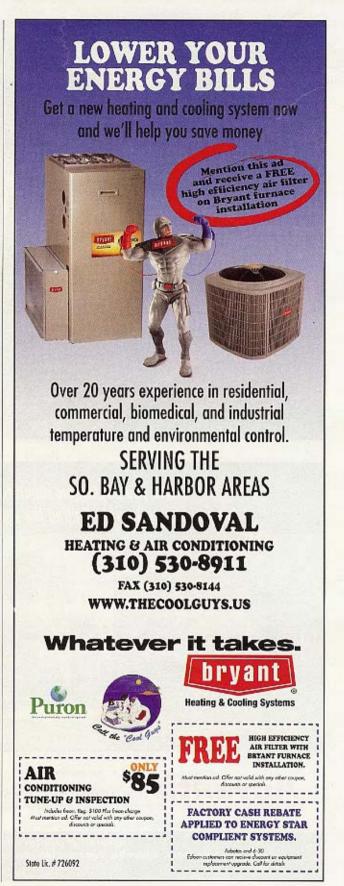
BRINGING GREEN INSIDE

Selection and care for indoor plants

KITCHEN APPLIANCES

The latest options and how to choose





Summer Checklist

he summer months are a great time to perform maintenance L tasks on areas of your home which you utilize more heavily during the winter such as your fireplace. Here are a few suggestions for tasks to focus on this season.

Cut down and remove weeds and brush to reduce fire hazards. Plant bare areas to reduce erosion and ensure they are established before the rainy season. Date: Notes: irrigation system

Make sure your irrigation system is covering all plant areas and not wasting water by shooting on sidewalks, etc. Date:

Repair broken or cracked glass and repair or replace screens. Consider installing dual glazed windows on West and South facing walls for additional energy conservation. Caulk around all exterior openings and check weatherstripping.

Date: Notes:

air conditioning windows and doors

Notes:

Schedule a service to keep your system running at peak efficiency. Check and replace filters and have ducting cleaned.

Date:

Notes:

Roofers can be slow in summer, so schedule an appointment to check for damage or leaks (schedule before the rainy season when they are busy!).

Date: Notes:

Check for termite or dry rot damage and repair. Remove dirt and organic material against the house and at least 6 inches below mudsill.

Date:

Notes:

If you have stucco siding, examine it for cracks and crumbling (note that some cracks in stucco is normal). Check other types of siding (wood, Hardiplank, etc.) for wear and tear and possible air gaps; caulk any gaps that are found.

Date: Notes:

Make an appointment with a chimney sweep to have your chimney cleaned. Many homeowners neglect this task, but it is an important safety measure. Summer is a great time to do this since your fireplace is not in use.

Date:

Notes:

Check valves on your gas grill to ensure there are no propane leaks. Date: Notes:

Compiled using information provided by Bill Leisy, president of Masterworks Construction Services Inc. in Signal Hill,