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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 know-how 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

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BATH BEFORES-AND-AFTERS

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Summer Checklist

The summer months are a great time to perform maintenance 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.

landscape

- 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: _____

Notes: _____

windows and doors

- 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

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

Date: _____

Notes: _____

roof

- 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: _____

exterior

- 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: _____

siding

- 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: _____

fireplace

- 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: _____

miscellaneous

- 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. 