



AROUND THE HOUSE

APRIL 2016

NEWS FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS YOURS



- *Our Services Include*
- *Kitchen/Bath Remodels*
- *Basement Finishing*
- *Additions*
- *Whole House Remodeling or Build*
- *Energy Efficient*
- *Siding/Windows*
- *Home Offices*
- *Certified Aging-in- Place*

Inside This Issue:

- **Earth Day: Then and Now**
- **Need a manly Kitchen for your Man Cave?**
- **Which Home Renovations Can do More Harm than Good?**

Plus much, much more!!!



DON'T FORGET TO JOIN US
FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2016

3:00 - 6:00 P.M.

COMPLIMENTARY APPETIZERS & BEVERAGES

AWESOME GIVEAWAYS AND PRIZES

**Come Check Out Our New
Showroom Introducing Wellborn
Cabinets and The Onyx Shower
Collection**



Earth Day: April 22

History

The first Earth Day was in 1970. Senator Gaylord Nelson, after seeing the damage done by a 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California, was inspired to organize a national "teach-in" that focused on educating the public about the environment.

Nelson recruited Denis Hayes, a politically active recent graduate of Stanford University, as national coordinator, and persuaded U.S. Rep. Pete McCloskey of California to be co-chairman. With a staff of 85, they were able to rally 20 million people across the United States on April 20, 1970. Universities held protests, and people gathered in public areas to talk about the environment and find ways to defend the planet.

"Groups that had been fighting against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife suddenly realized they shared common values," according to a history of Earth Day by the Earth Day Network, which was founded by the event's organizers to promote environmental citizenship and action year-round.

Reflecting on the 10th anniversary of Earth Day, Nelson wrote in an article for EPA Journal, "It was on that day that Americans made it clear that they understood and were deeply concerned over the deterioration of our environment and the mindless dissipation of our resources." In 1995, President Bill Clinton awarded Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom for being the founder of Earth Day. This is the highest honor given to civilians in the United States.

Modern Earth Day

Earth Day continued to grow over the years. In 1990, it went global, and 200 million people in 141 countries participated in the event, according to the Earth Day Network.

Earth Day 2000 included 5,000 environmental groups and 184 countries. Hayes organized a campaign that focused on global warming and clean energy. "The world's leaders in Kyoto, Japan, in late 1997, acknowledged the scientific fact that the leading cause of global warming is carbon emissions from fossil-fuel consumption, and that something must be done to address those rising emissions," Hayes told National Geographic.

In 2010, for the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, 225,000 people gathered at the National Mall for a climate rally. Earth Day Network launched a campaign to plant 1 billion trees, which was achieved in 2012, according to the organization.

Although Earth Day has become mainstream, surveys show that environmentalism may be stumbling. According to recent Gallup polls, 42 percent of Americans believe that the dangers of climate change are exaggerated, and less than half say that protection of the environment should be given priority over energy production.



"You're lucky. My wife won't let me have a man cave."



"Do you know you move your lips when you text?"

Just for Fun

1. May - Bean - Flag
2. Lamb - Pork - Karate
3. Road - Weather - Treasure
4. Penguin - Kiwi - Ostrich
5. Bad T.V. Shows - Stamps - Checks
6. Sheets - Books - Rolls
7. Chips - Sweet - Spears
8. Right - Love - Bermuda
9. Buck - Baby - Wisdom
10. Crab - Caramel - Candy

COMMONYMS

What's a commonym you ask?
A commonym is group of words that have a common trait in the three words/items listed. For example: A car - A tree - An elephant ... they all have trunks. These will make you think!

Answers on page 8

Can February March?

Answer on page 8

Christie's Design/Build Remodeling

April Is:

- National Humor Month
- Keep America Beautiful Month
- Lawn and Garden Month
- National Poetry Month
- National Pecan Month
- Stress Awareness Month
- Guitar Month

Clear Gutter Clutter

Usually you think about your gutters in fall. But plenty of debris can accumulate there in the six months since you last cleaned them.

It's easy to miss leaves from trees that don't go bare until late fall. They're probably still up there. Storm-blown sticks are aren't going anywhere by themselves. Many trees drop spring buds and flowers, and then there are the clouds of white cottony stuff blowing from the cottonwoods. By the middle of April, it's time to clean the gutters again. Here are a few safety tips.

* You'll be climbing a ladder, so don't wear loose clothes that could trip you up or catch on the ladder or the gutter. Wear shoes that easily grip each rung of the ladder.

* Wear safety glasses to protect your eyes and wear work gloves so you won't be cut by something sharp, which could also startle you and make you fall.

* Always work with a partner who can hold the ladder and help to move it to the next work spot, and who can call for help if you fall or are injured.

* Use a trowel instead of your hands, even if you are wearing gloves.

* Dump debris into a garbage can below. If you miss it, you can sweep up when you're finished. Never carry a trash bucket up the ladder.

You may not look forward to the project, but gutters are needed to carry water away the foundation and basement. And they can prevent wall damage on the inside of a home.

Need a Man Kitchen for the Man Cave?

Some say kitchens are becoming the new man caves. Men say they do want to cook but would like kitchen features that are more appropriate for their sizes and tastes. Kitchens of Montana, Santa Monica, Calif., says men like ...

* Bold darker colors offset by black or white, a crisp and clean style.

* Beefed up hardware. They are more comfortable with larger handles on drawers and cabinets and like brass and bronze hardware.

* Colorful appliances and gadgets. Red ranges are a favorite as are small appliances of the same color.

* A second sink. They want simple hardware on it and a spray-faucet attachment worthy of a firehouse, says New York architect James Ramsey.

* Elevated counters, or at least one elevated counter. One recent remodeler raised the central island by 2 inches, making it 38 inches high.

* A wireless sound system and TV that can be controlled with a smartphone. New York designer Bob Schwartz likes the Sonos system for its compactness and great sound.

* Very tough surfaces on counters. Designer Young Huh says Caesarstone and Silestone are big names in this category. Some men like to tenderize meat or saw a large bone in half without damaging the counter.

* Heavy duty power for ranges, exhaust systems and dishwashers. With a powerful stove, choose a hood designed for high BTUs, which will also clear the cooking smoke a guy can create.

* A higher vent hood. Avoid head bumps: hang the hood a little higher.

* Space for socializing. The center island should have seats and elbow room so guests can share the space with the cook

Raise Your Hand to Volunteer

President George H.W. Bush's inauguration address in 1989 that praised "all the individuals and community organizations spread like stars through the nation, doing good."

During his first year, he founded the Points of Light Foundation and then launched the current volunteerism movement by signing the first piece of federal service legislation in 20 years, the National and Community Service Act of 1990.

Today, Points of Light partners with thousands of corporations and nonprofits through affiliate organization in 250 cities. More than 4 million Americans give 30 million hours of service every year.

Celebrate Service. That's the message that local volunteer groups will be promoting between April 10-16, a week-long effort to inspire and encourage everyone to join and to work with their neighbors and business cohorts to address the myriad issues that prevent the full enjoyment of life.

Volunteers are needed to care for infants and teens with AIDS, provide job training for the homeless, teach immigrants English or illiterate adults to read, work with hospice patients or youth sports teams, deliver meals to shut-ins, mentor a child, or to provide monthly haircuts or manicures to those in a nursing home. Celebrate service by becoming a point of light in someone's life. Everyday should be a day to volunteer.

National Volunteer Week began in 1974 when President Richard Nixon signed an executive order establishing the week as an annual celebration of volunteering. Every President since has signed a proclamation promoting National Volunteer Week.

	4	1						
	5						6	
8	3		2	9				
			4	7				6
	1						5	
6				8	9			
				4	5		2	7
	8						3	
						1	8	

To solve a sudoku, you only need logic and patience. No math is required.
Simply make sure that each 3x3 square region has a number 1 through 9 with only one occurrence of each number.

Each column and row of the large grid must have only one instance of the numbers 1 through 9.

The difficulty rating on this puzzle is easy.

WE WELCOME THIS MONTH'S NEW CLIENTS TO THE "CHRISTIE'S REMODELING" FAMILY

Here are some of our new clients that became members of the "Christie's Remodeling Family" this past month. I'd like to welcome you and wish you all the best!

Bill & Lori Jenkins, Ft. Lupton, CO

We are giving recognition to our new clients and our superb friends who are kind enough to refer their neighbors and relatives to us.

**Home Renovations
(When Addition Can Subtract)**

Whether you're thinking of selling your home or just want to improve its comfort value, there are inexpensive steps you can take to achieve either goal.

They include adding ceiling fans; updating appliances to attractive, energy-saving units, applying a fresh coat of paint and replacing old-style light fixtures.

Here are some renovations that will decrease the value of your home, according to Scott McGillivray, author of *How to Add Value to Your Home*.

* Breaking down the wall between two small bedrooms to create a master suite. Buyers prefer three-bedrooms.

* Converting an attached garage to living space. Sounds like a good idea, but many buyers won't even look at a home that doesn't have a garage.

* Adding artistic touches to the home, like large wall paintings. They can be painted over, but most buyers prefer uncluttered walls, a blank space for them to fill in, not an example of the previous owner's tastes.

* Painting walls dark colors tends to make home buyers think the rooms are small and unwelcoming. Light-colored walls make the rooms feel larger and friendlier, which is what home buyers want, even if they will paint the walls themselves.

* Doing it yourself: Quoted in *Bottom Line Personal*, McGillivray says that unless you are a professional remodeler, skip do-it-yourself updates. When buyers, and the home inspectors they hire, see such work, they wonder what else you have done, such as working on the electricity and plumbing. Buyers are more confident when they feel a home has been professionally maintained.

* Adding a chain-link fence in the front yard looks cheap and unwelcoming. And it give buyers a low first impression of the property.

Market Developers Are Considering the Millennial

It could be that builders are taking a cue from retirees and millennials. They both want a reasonably sized home that's beautiful and comfortable but costs less than the new homes builders have been constructing.

In some areas, high home prices have almost closed off the new-home market to young buyers, but that's changing fast. Local builders and national companies are now offering entry-level homes. They can cost about 30 percent less than a builder's other offerings.

As one builder put it, there are only so many people who can afford to buy a home for \$400,000. So they are building homes that will cost much less.

Many millennials are willing to sacrifice luxury for affordability. One couple quoted in *Bloomberg Businessweek* bought a home with particle board cabinets and a small yard, but the price was right and they wanted to build home equity.

They say that after they have kids, they can buy their dream home with a big backyard. At that time they will be making a lot more money. A time to buy now?

Real estate advisors say that if a millennial or retiree can find an entry-level home they like and can afford, it would be a good time to buy it.

Everything related to homes could rise in the future, including land prices and mortgage interest rates.

The Federal Reserve has begun raising interest rates for the first time in seven years, which could nudge mortgage interest rates higher.

Cutting the Cord

A Pew Research Center study published in December shows that 24 percent of Americans do not subscribe to cable or satellite television.

Young adults are most likely not to have a cable or satellite subscription. In fact, 16 percent have never had a television subscription.

About 75 percent of young adults without a cable subscription say they access information online.

Chicken Asparagus Roll-Ups

Ingredients

- ½ cup mayonnaise
- 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1 lemon, juiced and zested
- 2 teaspoons dried tarragon
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper, ½ teaspoon salt
- 16 spears fresh asparagus, trimmed
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- 4 slices provolone
- 1 cup panko bread crumbs



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 475 degrees F (245 degrees C). Grease a baking dish. In a bowl, mix together the mayonnaise, Dijon mustard, lemon juice, lemon zest, tarragon, salt, and pepper until the mixture is well combined. Set aside.
2. Cook asparagus in the microwave on High until bright green and just tender, 1 to 1 1/2 minutes. Set the asparagus spears aside. Place a chicken breast between two sheets of heavy plastic (resealable freezer bags work well) on a solid, level surface. Firmly pound the chicken breast with the smooth side of a meat mallet to a thickness of about 1/4 inch. Repeat with the rest of the chicken breasts.
3. Place 1 slice of provolone on each chicken breast, and top the cheese with 4 asparagus spears per breast. Roll the chicken breasts around the asparagus and cheese, making a tidy package, and place, seam sides down, in the prepared baking dish. With a pastry brush, apply a coating of the mayonnaise mixture to each chicken breast, and sprinkle each with panko crumbs, pressing the crumbs into the chicken to make a coating.
4. Bake in the preheated oven until the crumbs are browned and the chicken juices run clear, about 25 minutes

Pecan Cups



- 3 ounces cream cheese
- ½ cup butter
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ¾ cup chopped pecans

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
2. To Make Crust: In a medium mixing bowl blend softened cream cheese and 1/2 cup butter or margarine until thoroughly combined. Add flour and mix well. Place in refrigerator to chill.
3. In a medium mixing bowl combine brown sugar and 1 tablespoon butter or margarine. Add egg and vanilla, and blend well. Stir in pecans.
4. Pat crust into the bottoms of paper muffin cups. Pour in filling, distributing evenly between all cups. Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes.

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****\$1,300 Remaining****

Each year, because of the nature of our business, we spend thousands of dollars on advertising, much of that money wasted over the past years learning what works for our company. Since referrals from our clients and friends have always been the best source of new business, we thought, "Why waste our money on unproductive advertising and spend some of our advertising dollars on what works best - referrals"? It's our way of saying, "Thanks for the Referral" and giving recognition to our good friends and clients who help support us!

\$1,500 Give Away!

CHRISTIE'S DESIGN/BUILD REMODELING is asking for your help. When you send your referrals, you are helping the business grow. To say, **"Thank You"** Christie's is offering these special rewards for you and your friends and family.

Here's how it works:

You'll receive \$200 for each referral. That's \$200 for referring your friends, family, and your neighbors, etc. WOW that's easy money!

There is no limit to the amount you can earn! Refer as many times as you want.

You or your referral can call, fax, or email their contact information to us and we'll take it from there!

Our rewards program runs until the \$2,500 is gone or until the end of the year (12/31/2015), whichever comes first! Watch for future newsletters for the future balance.

Rest assured, at **CHRISTIE'S DESIGN/BUILD REMODELING** we'll treat your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers with the care and professionalism you've come to trust.

Call: (303) 833-4715

Fax: (303) 325-7344

Email: Office@ChristiesCompleteServices.com

**We must receive the referral information in our office or we won't know to give you credit for the referral. To receive the \$200.00, the contract minimum is \$5,000.00. A contract must be signed and deposit received by Christie's before the referral compensation will be issued. There is no limit to the number of times you can receive compensation.

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Yes! Feel free to use my name as a reference when you contact the referrals!

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2	4	1	6	5	8	9	7	3
7	5	9	1	3	4	2	6	8
8	3	6	2	9	7	5	4	1
3	2	5	4	7	1	8	9	6
9	1	8	3	6	2	7	5	4
6	7	4	5	8	9	3	1	2
1	9	3	8	4	5	6	2	7
5	8	2	7	1	6	4	3	9
4	6	7	9	2	3	1	8	5

1. Poles
2. Types of chops
3. Maps
4. Birds that don't fly
5. They all get cancelled
6. Ways stamps are sold
7. Pickles
8. Triangles
9. Teeth
10. Apples

Riddle Answer:

No – but April May!

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