



AROUND THE HOUSE

APRIL 2012

NEWS FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS



Our Services Include:

- Kitchen/Bath Remodels
- Basement Finishing
- Additions
- Whole House Remodeling or Build
- Siding/Windows
- Energy Efficient Makeovers
- Home Offices
- Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist
- Outdoor Kitchens

Inside This Issue:

- Planting Zone Information Improved
- Tangy Easter Ham Recipe
- New Ways to Recycle

Plus much, much more!!!



Easter Around the World

Religious services and other Easter celebrations vary throughout the regions of the world and even from country to country. In the United States, many "sunrise services" are held outside, often in gardens or beside lakes where baptisms (representing rebirth) can be held on Easter morning. Here are a few other ways in which Easter is celebrated:

- **Bulgaria** - In Bulgaria, people don't hide their eggs -- they have egg fights! Whoever comes out of the game with an unbroken egg is the winner and assumed to be the most successful member of the family in the coming year. In another tradition, the oldest woman in the family rubs the faces of the children with the first red egg she has colored, symbolizing her wish that they have rosy cheeks, health and strength (much like the Easter egg).
- **Mexico** - Easter and related holidays are colorful and lively in Mexico, where children actually smash eggs over each other's heads in the week before Lent begins! Fortunately, these eggs are filled with small pieces of paper rather than raw egg.
- **Germany** - In Germany, eggs are dyed green on Maundy Thursday.
- **Greece** - On Easter Sunday in Greece, there is a public procession. Red eggs (red for the blood of Christ) are tapped together while one person declares "Christ is risen" and the other replies "Truly He is risen."
- **United States** - Parades are traditional in some U.S. cities. Atlantic City's 140-year-old parade is the oldest, and the promenade on New York's Fifth Avenue, immortalized in Irving Berlin's song, "**Easter Parade**," is perhaps the best known. The annual White House Easter Egg Roll takes place in the nation's capitol city on Easter Monday. (You'll learn more about this tradition on the next page.)
- **England** - In England, in Hallaton (in the County of Leicestershire), every Easter Monday, there is the **Hare Pie Scramble and Bottle Kicking**. The story goes that a woman was saved by a hare running across the path of a bull on Easter Monday hundreds of years ago. As a token of her appreciation, she bequeathed a piece of land to the rector. The sole condition to this bequest was that the rector have a hare pie made to be distributed to parishioners together with a large quantity of ale every year.

Good News for Gardeners!

Newer, better planting zone information

For the first time since 1990, the USDA Hardiness Zone Map has been updated.

America's 80 million gardeners, seed companies, commercial plant and tree growers, and even the USDA Risk Management Agency that uses the zone map to set up their crop insurance standards, will find the map more accurate and easier to use.

Calculations include factors such as nearby bodies of water, the slope of the land, prevailing winds, and the way cities are hotter than suburbs and rural areas.

The new map includes 13 zones, rather than 10, and each zone is further divided into A and B 5-degree Fahrenheit zones for a total of 26 zones. The 1990 map mentioned 34 U.S. cities in its key; the new map shows that 18 of these are in newer, slightly warmer zones, mostly a result of using temperature data from a more recent time.

These differences matter in deciding what you can plant. Since the new map is Internet friendly, gardeners can go online to www.planthardiness.ars.usda.gov, type in their ZIP Code and discover that some plants and trees might offer a long-desired possibility for their zone.

USDA spokeswoman Kim Kaplan, who was part of the map team, said the map isn't the best instrument to demonstrate climate change. It's based on the coldest days of the year.

As always, late frosts, early freezes, humidity, moisture availability and soil type also affect plant health and survival.

The new map also ignores microclimates created when trees create a shelter, or when concrete, asphalt, or south-facing walls provide reflective heat.

April Fools



Harmless Pranks

This is a good one for mom: if your kitchen sink has a spray nozzle, use a rubber band to secure it in the "on" position and then ask someone to get you a drink of water. When the water is turned on, they get sprayed!

Another food trick, crazy breakfast - frozen milk, vinegar for apple juice, string in the apple sauce, mayonnaise for yogurt, salt in the sugar bowl... it's a sure way to start a crazy day.

What does the Easter bunny get for making a basket?

Happy Easter!



Two points, just like everybody!

Christie's Design/Build Remodeling



March Is:

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

Volunteering Combats Stress!

Being able to focus on something else is the main reason why volunteering helps to lower stress levels. You will be able to focus on the tasks you have to complete as well as on the people or animals you might be helping. By listening to their stories and attending to their needs, you can forget about the stress in your life. You will be able to take your mind to their situations and to their problems, and then you can find ways to help. In fact, having someone to help often allows you to begin to problem solve for your own stress. Since you will begin to feel you can make a difference, you will take that energy and create a more positive attitude.

Do Something For Nothing in April!

Across the country this month Americans will be giving their time and energy, but not getting paid for it. What gives?

It's national volunteer month - a time when you have the opportunity to help your fellow Americans by volunteering.

April also encompasses National Volunteer Week. According to Nationalserviceresources.org:

"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. Additionally, governors, mayors and other elected officials make public statements and sign proclamations in support of the event.

"During National Volunteer Week, thousands of volunteers around the country will be honored with local organizational awards for their community service. Thousands of organizations also will distribute the President's Volunteer Service Award to their deserving volunteers. This award is the most prestigious volunteer award currently connected to the White House that all Americans can aspire to achieve. It provides organizations with the unique opportunity to bestow national and presidential recognition on their volunteers who have made a sustained commitment to service."

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	1	6	7			3		
			5	2				6

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!

Marlene Wiske of Thornton
Ken & Jennifer Fox of Arvada
David & Katherine Sanderson of Longmont

Earth Day 2012

April 22

Celebrate By Recycling In New Ways



Here are seven ways to protect the earth by creating less trash.

1. Recycle paperboard. It's the thin cardboard packaging that holds many of the items we buy, like cereal and tissue. Pizza boxes aren't accepted because they may have food residue.
2. Recycle more paper. That includes school papers, junk mail, magazines and catalogs. Even window envelopes and colored paper can be recycled.
3. Don't put leftover food into the trash. About a third of what goes into the trash is food. Compost it instead.
4. Recycle electronics. E-waste is the fastest growing disposal problem in the country. Its components are both dangerous and valuable. Website buyback programs and qualified recyclers are listed at DoYourPart.com/columns.
5. Think about how items can be reused. Glass jars are ideal for storing leftovers. Old holiday cards can be turned into gift tags. Sell sporting equipment in a yard sale.
6. Save outgrown or out-of-favor clothes so others can use them. Make a tax deductible contribution to a charity. Sell nice things on eBay or through a consignment shop. Even torn or worn-out clothing can be donated to Goodwill, which sells them to recyclers.
7. Buy food and drinks in larger packaging, like gallon bottles of water instead of individual bottles

Make a Tangy Glazed Ham with Peach-Ginger Sauce The Centerpiece of Your Easter Celebration

Ingredients

- 1 (10 pound) fully-cooked, bone-in ham
- 2 teaspoons whole cloves
-
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons brown mustard
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
-
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 1 cup peach nectar
- 1 cup peach preserves
- 5 cups frozen peach slices
- 2 teaspoons minced fresh ginger root
- 1 hot cherry pepper, seeded and minced
- 1 (3 inch) cinnamon stick



Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Use a serrated knife to score the top of the ham in a diamond pattern. Press whole cloves into the ham and place on a roasting rack in a roasting pan.
2. Bake for 1 1/2 to 2 hours in the preheated oven, or until the internal temperature of the ham has reached 140 degrees F (60 degrees C). Cover with aluminum foil if the ham starts to look dry.
3. While the ham is baking, mix together the cinnamon, mustard and 1/2 cup of brown sugar in a cup or small bowl. Set aside. In a saucepan over medium heat, mix together the remaining brown sugar, cider vinegar, peach nectar and peach preserves. Bring to a boil and then stir in the sliced peaches, ginger, cherry pepper and the cinnamon stick. Simmer until the peaches are tender and the sauce has thickened, 25 to 30 minutes.
4. Remove the ham from the oven and brush liberally with the mustard glaze. Increase the oven temperature to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) and return the ham to the oven, uncovered.
5. Bake for an additional 20 to 30 minutes, or until glaze is bubbly. Allow the ham to rest for 15 to 20 minutes before carving. Serve with hot Peach-Ginger sauce.

Calorie Check from a Vending Machine?

Touch-screen technology is letting vending machine buyers check calorie counts before hitting the buy button.

The VendScreen mounts on existing machines and displays each item being sold. It will be available soon.

A new FDA rule says companies who operate 20 or more machines must display the calorie counts. Fortunately, the VendScreen links with the system vending machines already use. It automatically updates the nutritional information.

Similar devices, such as the MIND from Vendors Exchange, also provide a digital display of nutritional information, show ads and run slide shows to promote products, according to USA Today

**Call Today to
Learn How to
Save On Your
Next Home
Project**

(303) 833-4715

****\$2,190 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!

This month, our friends and clients, Patrick and Brittany Turner, won our **\$200 REFERRAL FEE** for referring **The Fox Family of Arvada!** A basement finish contract has been signed because of that referral – thank you Turners! Also, a **\$30 GIFT CARD** from Chili’s Grill and Bar has been awarded to our Friend of the Month, Sarah Chavez of Frederick! Thank you Sarah for your confidence in our company!

You can be Christie’s Friend of the Month, too! Refer Christie’s for any remodeling work and watch for your name here in an upcoming month!

\$2,500 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! ***
- ⇒ **Your referral will receive \$500 discount off their final payment***
- ⇒ **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 (12/31/2012), 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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GET A NEW GRILL, UP TO A \$600 VALUE!!**

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**CONTRACT MUST BE SIGNED BY
MAY 30, 2011**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT FIRST APPOINTMENT



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

Basement Finishing ~ Bath Remodeling ~ Kitchen Remodeling ~ Additions ~ Whole House Remodeling ~ Siding ~ Windows ~ Outdoor Kitchens ~ Decks ~Energy Efficient Makeovers ~ Tenant Finishing ~ Handicap Accessibility Remodeling ~ Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS) Remodeling ~ Home Offices ~ Basement Finishing ~ Bath Remodeling ~ Kitchen Remodeling ~ Additions ~ Whole House Remodeling ~ Siding ~ Windows ~ Outdoor Kitchens