



Pavlu Junior Fair Queen

Paige Pavlu, front right, was crowned the Colorado County Junior Fair Queen in ceremonies Saturday night. Miss Congeniality was Taylor Dungen, front left. Back from left: Savannah Konvicka, first runner-up; Lauren Zajicek, second runner-up; and Madelyn Courtney.

TGCS Second Annual Event

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Dalibor was born, raised, and lived in Roznov until moving Caldwell, Texas, a few years ago. A traditional Texas Thanksgiving luncheon of roast turkey and dressing, candied yams, green beans, cranberry sauce, gravy, rolls, tea, coffee and assorted desserts will be served.

Genealogical research books and Czech genealogists will be available, free of charge, in the book room and newly arrived merchandise direct from the Czech Republic will be available on our

sales table.

A silent drawing table and door prizes will also add to the festivities of the day.

Early registration is September 21 a registration form can be found on the TCGS website at www.txczgs.org.

The registration form should be sent to: Deane Hodon, 1201 Nimbus Dr., Pflugerville, Texas 78660.

For more information contact Deane at: 512-251-5201 or by email at bdhodon@sbeglobal.net.

Add Warmth To Your Home

The most important quality in a home is how comfortable it is for your family and guests.

No matter if you're decorating your current home or building a new one, there are many major and minor touches that can add warmth to your living spaces:

* Think Color and Texture: Give a room a richer, cozier feel simply by selecting an inviting color scheme.

Paint should be your first choice when setting the tone, so choose warmer colors like muted browns, rich reds and inviting yellows. Paint the entire room or just emphasize one wall. Add texture by adding visual layers with blankets and throw pillows on sofas and armchairs.

Choose ones that lend splashes of color to your furniture.

Also consider texturizing walls with creative finishes or designs to add visual depth.

Rich, flowing drapes also can enhance the effect.

Home Is Where The

Hearth Is:

Nothing says warm like a fireplace or wood stove.

You can add a new one or retrofit an old fireplace with an energy-efficient insert.

A hearth easily becomes the focal point of a living or family room, especially with seating around it.

Regardless of decor or heating needs, today's homeowners have a myriad of choices from such fireplace and stove brands as Lennox, Country Collection, Security and others.

Homeowners even are renovating kitchens -- a favorite gathering spot -- to include open designs with central hearths.

Such additions even can save you money by zone heating your home to make it more energy

Fall Lawn Care Can Set The Stage For Next Season

With summer and spring often stealing the lawn and garden spotlight, you may be surprised to learn the most important lawn care season is just now upon us.

Fall lawn care is critical, as it sets the stage for a healthy, beautiful landscape in the seasons ahead.

No matter the size of the lawn, there are several easy-to-implement maintenance tips to follow this season:

* Fertilize: Fertilizing is a must to strengthen the lawn's root system and store nutrients needed in the harsh winter month's ahead.

It's all about replenishing the nutrients that were depleted in the summer months.

For an even distribution, spreaders offer a quick and convenient fertilizing solution.

Spreaders are available for lawns of every size, in both push-behind designs and tow-behind tractor models.

Pay special attention to areas that may have been worn down by foot traffic and outdoor entertaining.

* Sweep: Homeowners traditionally have suffered tired backs and pulled muscles after hours spent raking leaves or fumbling with leaf blowers.

This fall, use a lawn sweeper instead. They provide a convenient way to make short work of leaf and debris removal. Seek sweepers that are designed for any terrain and remove debris in one pass.

When selecting a tow-behind sweeper, choose one that collapses to save space and reduce the safety hazards of cluttered garages or sheds.

* Dethatch: Thatch is a layer of problem material that hides beneath the lawn between layers of soil. Thatch build-up translates to the spread of pests and disease

harmful to the landscape.

It also can prevent water and nutrients from reaching the root zone of a lawn.

Dethatchers do a gentle, but highly capable, job of bringing matted layers of thatch to the surface for easy removal.

* Aerate: Aerating should be done early before fertilizing to improve oxygen circulation, reduce weeds and help absorb fertilizer.

Many aerators conveniently attach to the back of a tractor and include aerator knives that effortlessly slice into the soil, saving time and energy.

* Kill Weeds Now: Perennials like dandelions and others need to be attacked early in fall, before they spread out next spring. Perennials germinate around this time of year and are therefore easier to kill.

Choose a broadleaf weed killer and apply it in the fall for a nicer spring lawn.

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A Girl Scout Registration Rally will be held Wed., Sept. 16 at Eagle Lake United Methodist Church, 200 W. Prairie St. • 5 – 6:30 p.m.
There will be games and crafts, led by Troop 2601.
All girls kindergarten thru 12th are welcome.
A \$12 registration fee due at the time of sign-up.

Girl Scouts, part of the World Association of Girl Guides, is the world's largest organization dedicated to helping girls reach their potential and make the world a better place.

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When To Check Your Car's Brakes

When it comes to vehicle safety, brakes top the list of systems that need to be routinely inspected and repaired immediately should motorists suspect problems.

According to the Car Care Council, many are unaware of the signs and symptoms that their brakes may need maintenance or repair.

"Never put off routine brake inspections or any needed repair, as letting the brakes get to the 'metal-to-metal' point is potentially dangerous and can lead to a more costly repair bill."

Symptoms of Brake Wear:

- * Car pulls to one side during braking.
- * Brake pedal pulsates when the brakes are applied.
- * Brake pedal feels "mushy."
- * Noise when the brake pedal is stepped on.
- * Repeatedly need to add brake

fluid to the master cylinder.

Several factors affect brake wear, including driving habits, operating conditions, vehicle type and the quality of the brake lining material.

A professional service technician will inspect brake linings, brake fluid, drums and rotors to determine what repairs are needed.

The typical "brake job" consists of brake pad and/or shoe replacement, along with related hardware.

Depending on the condition or thickness of drums or rotors, machining or replacement may be necessary.

Parking brakes also should be checked for proper operation and adjustment.

In some cases, the parking brake shoes/pads may need replacement.

efficient.

Create Intimate Seating Areas:

Move sofas and chairs away from walls to create intimate seating spaces.

Arrange seating around a sunny window, a fireplace or create a focal point by adding an area rug.

Contemporary Can Be Cozy, Too:

When most people think warm ambience, traditional and country furnishings leap to mind. Modern and contemporary can be warm, as well.

Uplighting plants can lend drama, while downlighting paintings and family photos can warm a room with many points of light.

There are even modern hearth products, such as the aptly-titled "X-Fires," that look like wall-mounted plasma TV screens and are ventless, requiring little to install.

They can be added to major gathering places, as well as bedrooms and baths.

Entice the Senses:

Soften a room, add a golden hue and spice the air with scented candles.

Cinnamon and vanilla are two of the more comforting scents. Position candles near mirrors to reflect light and warmth.

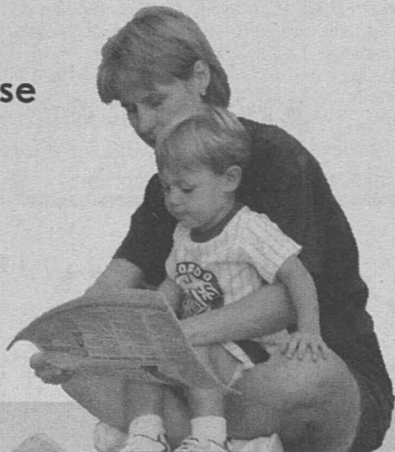
"Literally warming up your home can add money to your pocket. If you make an energy-efficient improvement during 2009 or 2010, such as adding a 75 percent efficient wood or pellet stove, fireplace or insert, you can receive a 30 percent tax credit, up to \$1,500," said Melissa Barnaby, Retail Product Manager, Lennox Hearth Products. For more information on what enhancements qualify, visit www.lennox.com.

Whether you are enhancing your home on a budget, committing to a major redesign, or building a new home, there are many creative ways to add literal and figurative warmth to your living spaces.

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