



ONLINE NEWSLETTER

The Latest News From Your Neighborhood Hardware Store!

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"Many years ago I resolved never to bother with New Year's resolutions, and I've stuck with it ever since."

~Dave Beard

Be Cozy and SAFE!

Your wood burning fireplace and/or wood stove chimney can be a major source of cold air leaks and fire safety issues in winter. So the chimney and fireplace need a little going over before winter sets in. Check that the chimney is clear of any nests from birds, squirrels or other animals.

Check flue damper operation. Make sure it opens and closes fully, and that it is able to be locked in the open or closed position.

Check chimney draft. Make sure the chimney will draw up the fire and smoke properly. Test this by taking several sheets of newspaper and rolling them up. Then

with the fireplace damper in the open position, light the newspaper in the fireplace. The smoke should rise up the chimney. If it doesn't, you have an obstruction and need to call a professional in to clean the chimney of creosote and ash and possible debris. If it has been several years since you had your fireplace chimney cleaned, you should have it done by a professional chimney sweep. Definitely not a fun DIY project. Inspect the fire brick in the fireplace. If you see any open mortar joints have them repaired immediately! A fire can spread into the stud wall behind the masonry fire brick through open mortar joints.



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Time Travel Trivia 100 years ago...

January 6 – New Mexico is admitted as the 47th U.S. state.

April 20 – Tiger Stadium (Detroit) opens and Fenway Park (Boston), home of the Boston Red Sox, opens.

April 10 – The British ocean liner RMS Titanic leaves Southampton in England on her maiden voyage for New York City.

200 years ago...

October – The capital of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, United States is permanently moved from Lancaster to Harrisburg.

August 19 – War of 1812: The USS Constitution defeats the British frigate Guerrière off the coast of Nova Scotia. The British shot is said to have bounced off the Constitution's sides, earning her the nickname "Old Ironsides".

This Holiday Season
Give Them
What They
Really
Want...



Drive Safely This Winter



- Bridges and overpasses freeze first, so always slow down and avoid sudden changes in speed or direction.
- Keep windows clear. Keep your speed steady and slow -- but not so slow that your car gets stuck in deeper snow.
- Use your brakes cautiously. Abrupt braking can cause brake lock-up and cause you to lose steering control.
- To make Antilock Brakes work correctly, apply constant, firm pressure to the pedal. During an emergency stop, push the brake pedal all the way to the floor, if necessary, even in wet or icy conditions.
- If you get stuck in snow, straighten the wheels and accelerate slowly. Avoid spinning the tires. Use sand or cinders under the drive wheels.