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## Inside This Issue...

Transform Your Space.....	1
Invasive Plants.....	2
Get the High-End Looks.....	3
Outdoor Maintenance.....	4



## Fun Fact:

The IRS processes more than 2 billion pieces of paper each year!

*Randall Brennan's*

# NEWSLETTER

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## Transform your space with an unexpected color

(ARA) - For today's homeowners who are seeking easy ways to update their homes on a do-it-yourself budget, nothing transforms the look and feel of a room as quickly and affordably as a fresh coat of colorful paint.

"Every home has the potential to look amazing - inside and out," says HGTV star and interior designer David Bromstad. "If your space needs an update, adding color is the easiest way to transform it while reflecting your personality and taste."

**\*Highlight unexpected areas.**

Paint can go beyond walls. You can put it on unexpected surfaces, such as ceilings and accessories. Try a bright hue on the interior of a bookshelf or stair risers for a fun twist.

**\*Use white on trim to make your color pop.**

White trim is classic and elegant, so you never get sick of it, and it's a fantastic way to highlight color on your walls.

**\*Paint furniture.**

If you need or prefer to keep your walls neutral, a great way to add color is by painting a side table, chair or armoire. This spices up the space and makes it easy to change your room's look anytime you want.

**\*Coordinate your color transitions.**

For high-impact transitions, combine bolder shades with their more neutral counterparts and for a more tranquil transition, stick to softer or lighter shades that are from the same color family.

When it comes to paint selection, Bromstad recommends using HGTV(R) HOME by Sherwin-Williams, which features unique designer-inspired color collections for interiors and exteriors. Each collection highlights 20 perfectly coordinated colors and design tips for homeowners to create harmonious room-to-room color transitions.

- Courtesy of ARA Content

## Word of the Month:

Studies have shown that your income and wealth is directly related to the depth of your Vocabulary. Here is this month's word so you can impress your friends.

### Affable

\AF-uh buhl\,

*Adjective:*

1. Easy to speak to; receiving others kindly and conversing with them in a free and friendly manner.

Example:

Johnny's father, while strict with his children, usually was **affable** and relaxed.

-- Paul C. Nagel, *John Quincy Adams*

## Quotes to Live by:

"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says, 'I'm possible!'"

—Audrey Hepburn

## Say What?

### Hat Trick:

When one player scores three goals in the same hockey game. This idiom can also mean three scores in any sport, such as 3 homeruns, 3 touchdowns, 3 soccer goals, etc.

## Why fall is the time to tackle invasive plant problems

(ARA) - The crisp days of fall will soon be here, but a long dry summer has left many homeowners looking out on lawns and gardens overtaken with invasive weeds and vines. A yard full of these noxious plants is sure to make it difficult to enjoy the cooler outdoor temperatures.

Weeds like dandelions, crabgrass and clover easily tolerate hot temperatures and dry soil, overtaking lawns and gardens and lingering throughout the cooler fall months. Ivy and other aggressive vines thrive in the summer heat, climbing and covering bushes and trees and ultimately killing the plants underneath with their shade.

Left untreated, invasive plants can quickly become health and safety hazards. Kudzu can grow up to a foot per day, causing tree limbs to break under its weight, damaging homes and outdoor living spaces. Common grass weeds like nettles and thistles sting and prick the skin, and contact with dangerous plants like poison oak, ivy and sumac cause moderate to severe allergic reactions in almost all people.

"Fall herbicide treatments are the most effective way to eliminate unattractive and potentially harmful plants from lawns and gardens so that those spaces can be enjoyed throughout the cool fall months," says Aaron Hobbs, president of RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), a national organization representing the manufacturers, formulators and distributors of pesticide and fertilizer products.

This is the best time of year to eliminate invasive plants," Hobbs adds. "Weeds move the products of photosynthesis like water, glucose and oxygen to their roots for winter food storage in the fall, enabling the roots to soak up herbicides as well." Two to three treatments are usually all that is needed to completely destroy these types of plants.

With just one or two follow-up treatments after an initial fall herbicide application, invasive plants are eradicated at the root, and people can take back their lawns and gardens to enjoy the beauty of fall.

- Courtesy of ARA Content

**Movie Trivia:** Which of the witches was killed when Dorothy's house landed in Oz?

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Witch of the West | b. Witch of the North |
| c. Witch of the East | d. Witch of the South |

**CALL ME NOW AT 303-909-2365**

**Would you like to know how much your neighbor's home listed for?**

Maybe you're just curious. Or maybe you want to know how much equity you have in your home. Or perhaps you are thinking of selling soon and want to know how much your home increased in value. Either way, I can help...No "sales pitches" or runarounds. Just give me a call **303-909-2365** and I will give you the facts.

**Economy at a Glance:**

Data Series	July 2012	Aug 2012	Sept 2012
<a href="#"><u>Unemployment Rate</u></a>	8.3	8.1	N/A
<a href="#"><u>Change in Payroll Employment</u></a>	141	96	N/A
<a href="#"><u>Average Hourly Earnings</u></a>	23.53	23.52	N/A
<a href="#"><u>Consumer Price Index</u></a>	0.0	0.6	N/A
<a href="#"><u>Producer Price Index</u></a>	0.3	1.7	N/A

**US Population Clock**

314,508,090

**World Population Clock**

7,043,344,079

-October 3, 2012

**Get the high-end looks for your kitchen without the high price**

Don't give up on your kitchen design dreams just yet. There are several ways to bring a high-end look to your home without the high price. With a little inspiration, research and proper planning, you can have a picture-perfect kitchen that will look as though it's been lifted from the pages of the top home design magazines. Get started creating your dream kitchen with these tips.

1.) Be inspired- Browse magazines, home design blogs and websites like Pinterest or Houzz to gather inspiration. Take note of the kitchens that catch your eye and what it is that you like most about the design. Many of the things that you're drawn to are within your budget.

2.) Assess your space- Take stock of the space you currently have and consider the layout and the work triangle. A smart layout can create a more spacious and efficient kitchen no matter the square footage.

3.) Design for your style- Whether your style is classically traditional or more contemporary, there are cabinets, appliances and fixtures to fit. Whether your budget is under \$10,000 or more than \$50,000, you'll take pride in having a kitchen that was designed with your style and needs in mind.

4.) Get help- It's easy to be tempted with extras during the kitchen design process, and costs can quickly add up. Work with a professional designer to set and manage the budget, and help determine areas to invest and where to cutback. If you're drawn to elements of luxury kitchens, share that with your designer for ways to achieve a similar look.

5.) Customize with color- Combining contrasting colors, textures and materials creates visual interest and can make your kitchen look custom. Try adding some color by varying cabinetry finishes and countertop materials. Add a backsplash with artistic glass tiles to let your personality and style come through.

Remodeling a kitchen can be stressful on you and your wallet, but if you're committed to your design dream, it's likely you'll find ways to achieve it.

-Courtesy of ARA Content-

### Food Fact:

- Pumpkins were once recommended for removing freckles and curing snake bites!

-More than 35 million pounds of candy corn will be produced this year. That equates to nearly 9 billion pieces!

### Weird Laws:

*Alabama*- Bear wrestling matches are prohibited.

*Georgia*- No one may carry an ice cream cone in their pack pocket if it is Sunday.

*Maine*- No person may roller skate on the sidewalk.

*Nevada*- Benches may not be places in the middle of any street.

### U.S.A. Facts

- Virginia is known as the "Birthplace of the Nation."

- The first free public library in the United States was est. at Peterborough, New Hampshire in 1933.

**And...** Whether you are thinking of buying, selling, or financing real estate, or stop by and say "hi", I'd love to hear from you...

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**References:**-[aracontent.com](http://aracontent.com),  
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<http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.us.htm>

### Fall outdoor maintenance can go a long way

(ARA) - After spending the summer enjoying the outdoors, it can be a little bittersweet to get the deck and yard ready for the cooler days ahead. The good news is getting outdoor areas ready for winter doesn't have to be a time-consuming process.

A few simple steps can minimize extra work when warmer weather rolls around again. For each area of the yard, there are a few procedures that can save you big headaches in the long run.

**Start with the deck-** The many homeowners that put a lot of time and money into building a deck know the importance of preserving that investment. A wood deck should be stained annually, however, many homeowners are turning to low-maintenance composite decking and railings, as composite options by manufacturers like TimberTech offer high-end aesthetics with low-maintenance qualities.

**Lawn care tips-** In addition to raking to keep the yard clear of leaves, dethatching can prevent a buildup of above-ground roots that can be a detriment to soil health. Aerating in the fall can also help lawns recover from a summer of heavy use, providing much needed oxygen for the turf's roots.

After particularly dry summers, it doesn't hurt to water trees with a soaker hose or root irrigator so they have some water to help them survive the winter. Fall is also the time to clear out both garden and flower beds, as you'll thank yourself in the spring for doing the work before winter set in. Be sure to get your fall-planting flower bulbs in before the ground freezes as well.

**Around the house-** Clearing all gutters of debris should be an annual fall task, as all the fallen leaves can easily jam up downspouts, which can damage gutters or cause ice dams in colder climates. It's also a good idea to clear the areas around the foundation of the house, as pests like to make their homes there when the weather gets cold.

By spending a temperate autumn day outside preparing your outdoor spaces for winter, you'll eliminate extra work for yourself in the spring.

-Courtesy of ARA Content-