

CITY SPOTLIGHT ON BLUE SPRINGS

Catch EJ & Ellen, Jamie & Wickett, Dana & Parks... as they all do their shows LIVE!

OCTOBER 14TH 7AM - 6PM

SINCLAIR'S RESTAURANT

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Safe Fires

Posted: Tuesday, 04 October 2016 7:44AM

Chimney maintenance critical for safe autumn fires

Crisp autumn air will return soon with people all around the metro once again using their fireplaces but the warmth from the hearth can be dangerous if the fireplace and chimney are not properly cleaned and maintained.

Only about seven percent of all chimneys in the United States are ever professionally serviced, according to industry experts.

"You're having a fire in your house, so you obviously want it to be a controlled fire in the safest environment possible," said Jeremy Biswell, who runs Fluesbrothers Chimney & Fireplace in Kansas City.

Fires are not the only concern. A poorly maintained fireplace can lead to other problems, said Ryan Swope, a certified chimney technician at Fluesbrothers.

"Water entry is a big thing," Swope said. "Water hurts the structure so it makes things fall apart."

Wild animals can enter homes through broken-down chimneys.

More than half of home heating-related structure fires involve fireplaces or chimneys, according to the Chimney Safety Institute of America.

It is a good idea for homeowners to call now to have their chimneys serviced, Biswell said. The wait increases when the weather gets cold.

METAL by the FOOT advertisement with image of metal pipes and contact info: (816) 241-5550

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I was too drunk to remember if she said yes to marry me?

Mentioned: student teacher, wedding day, college football, winds gusts



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