

Unit



appliance doctor

# Spring is time for appliance check



JOE GAGNON

One of these days very soon, the temperature will climb into the 70s during the day and stay there. Nature will stop fooling with our emotions by not snowing on us the next day and then we will be on our way to the summer season.

In preparation for all this, let's begin with Easter dinner that many of you will have at your home.

1. Turn the kitchen range on before Sunday and make sure the oven is heating properly and the top burners come on. If your range is gas, make sure you crack open a kitchen window during the whole time you're using it. Gas ranges are known to give off carbon monoxide into the kitchen area and the problem can be eliminated by introducing a little fresh air into the home. Some stoves have a timer with a manual and hold

button, and if you set it on the wrong setting, the oven won't heat over 200 degrees. Make sure the automatic igniter inside the oven is lighting the flame each time it cycles, and for goodness sake, don't slam the door too hard. These igniters are so fragile that a simple hard closing of the door can break them.

2. Those service technicians who repair clothes dryers are about to become very busy. The dryer vent line is a perfect place for the critters who want to new homes to move into. The flapper outside must be cleaned with an old toothbrush, making sure the hinges are clean allowing it to close all the way. They can't get in if the door is shut, and if they do, they can enter all the way into your basement or laundry room. Remove the vent line and take it outside, making sure it's clear of built up lint accumulation. Please keep in mind that clothes dryers are responsible for more than 13,000 house fires a year in the American home. If your dryer is making rumble sounds or squeaking

noises, it's time to have service on it.

3. The condenser under your refrigerator should be cleaned every four months and, as you know, the cat or dog have been laying there all winter. The accumulation of dust and hair that cov-

ers all the black tubing under a refrigerator is the biggest source of service calls in this product category. It can cause premature failure of the compressor.

See Gagnon, page D8

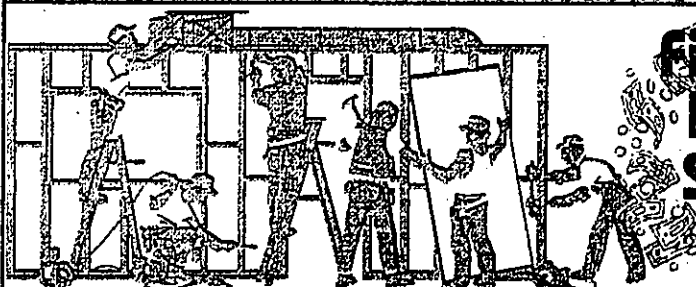
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