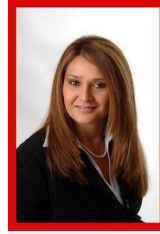


Over the Fence

NEWS FROM YOUR REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL...

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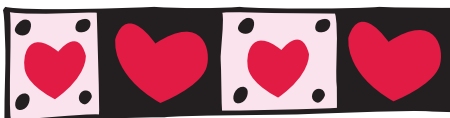
The Meaning of Roses

February is for lovers. So, why not show someone how much you care by sending a bouquet or floral arrangement this Valentine's Day...or any day this month.

Although traditional, long-stemmed red roses are not the only way to express love and friendship on Valentine's Day. Sweetheart or miniature roses are slightly less expensive than tea roses but are available in the same range of colors from red and pink to white and yellow, and even pale lavender and peach.

Pick out the color that best expresses your feelings this Valentine's Day.

- **Yellow:** Joy, friendship, freedom
- **Pink:** Happiness, gratitude, appreciation, admiration
- **Creams:** Thoughtful, charming, gracious
- **White:** Innocence, purity, secrecy, reverence
- **Red:** Love, passion, respect, courage



FEBRUARY HOME WARRANTY TIP: Run an empty dishwasher with a cup of vinegar on a normal cycle. It cleans out old food particles to keep your dishwasher smelling fresh.



Home Sweet Home

Creating a Positive First Impression for Quick Sale

The front entrance of your home is a key part of the "First Impression." To make sure you create a positive impression:

- Paint, clean or stain the front door. Remove old screens if they don't fit or operate properly.
- Make sure entry light and doorbell are in working order.
- Replace missing house numbers and/or polish or paint the old ones.
- Replace that worn out welcome mat with a new colorful and welcoming mat. Add a potted plant if you have room.
- Repaint or replace mailbox.
- Remove dead limbs and debris from shrubs and trees.
- Plant extra flowers for more color or spruce up landscaping with potted flowers.

More Curb Appeal

Freshen up the outside of your home with these 3 easy tips:

- 1. Clean the gutters.** It's easier to scoop up the leaves and debris in your gutters when the stuff is wet, so pull out your ladder and clean the gutters after a soaking rain. You should do this at least twice a year, but may need to do it monthly if your home is surrounded by trees.
- 2. Mulch garden beds.** By the end of the month, the ground has thawed in many parts of the country and it's time to start warding off weeds. If you didn't mulch in early winter, now is the time to add a layer to discourage weeds.
- 3. Prune ornamental grasses.** Clean up pampas grass and other ornamental grasses by cutting them in early spring, before new green shoots get tall. Cut the old grass about 2 to 4 inches above the new green shoots. Cut straight across the top of the clump and rake away the dead stalks to clean up the plant.

FEBRUARY

February 9-15: Random Acts of Kindness Week

February 2: Groundhog Day

February 12: Lincoln's Birthday

February 14: Valentine's Day

February 16: Presidents Day National Holiday

February 22: George Washington's Birthday



Valentine's Day Statistics

- **\$13.19 Billion:** Average annual Valentine's Day spending
- **180 Million:** Number of Valentine's Day cards exchanged annually
- **196 million:** Average number of roses produced for Valentine's Day
- **85%:** Percent of Valentine's Day cards bought by women
- **73%:** Percent of flowers bought by men
- **\$116:** Amount the average consumer spends on Valentine's Day
- **62%:** Percent of consumers who celebrate Valentine's Day
- **53%:** Percent of women who would end their relationship if they didn't get something for Valentine's day.

Retail Advertising and Marketing Association, Valentine's Day Consumer Intentions and Actions Survey (2014)

JOANNE'S CREAMY BRUSCHETTA

Ingredients:

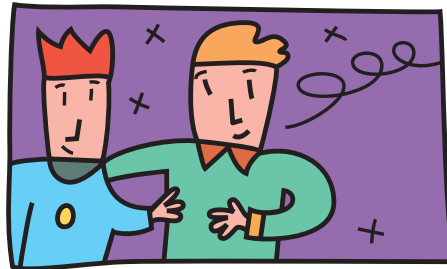
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 cup mozzarella cheese, grated
- 2 tomatoes, diced, to taste
- 2 tablespoons parmesan cheese
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon basil
- 1 minced garlic clove, to taste
- 1 baguette

Directions:

- Cut bread in 1 inch slices and butter the bottom of each.
- Mix the rest of the ingredients together.
- Put 1 tsp or so of mixture on each slice and place on baking pan.
- Bake at 350 for 10-15 minutes or until melted and the bread is crispy but not like hockey pucks.
- Serve immediately. Serves 12.

Recipe found on food.com

International Random Acts of Kindness Week— February 9–15



Take this week to step out of your normal routine or comfort zone and attempt a new random act of kindness each day of the celebratory week. Post and share your stories, photos, videos and ideas on their social media channels.

Please use #RAKweek to tag your social media posts so others can find them.

Repair, Replace, Relax with Fidelity National Home Warranty (FNHW). A home warranty from FNHW provides both the home buyer and seller with "peace of mind" when it comes to repairs and/or replacement of a home's major systems and appliances. FNHW prides itself on superior customer service, including quick response time and efficient solutions for homeowners' problems and needs.



If you are thinking of buying or selling a home in the near future, please call for a personal interview and property assessment with no obligation.

This is not intended as a solicitation if your property is currently listed with another agent. These materials contain information and articles obtained from third parties. FNHW does not endorse the recommendations of any third party nor guarantee the information provided is complete or correct.



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