



**DARLENE GILLEY**

# Between FRIENDS



**You've Got A Friend in the Real Estate Business!**

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**W**ith the change of seasons fast approaching, it is a good time to check your weather stripping to be sure it doesn't need replacing. Call me today and I will provide you with several tips on preparing your home for winter weather.



**H**ome warranty protection is very important and something I recommend for all my clients. Whether you are buying or selling, home warranties provide protection from the cost and hassle of system and appliance repairs in your home. The service is easy to use and a great value!

It's true that many home warranties appear to be similar, but the difference can be found in the *service*. My home warranty company of choice is Old Republic Home Protection. They take excellent care of my clients with fast, friendly service at reasonable rates. For more information about this valuable protection, please give me a call!

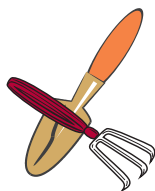
**Y**our referrals mean the world to me. If you've worked with me in the past, you have experienced my dedication and commitment to ensuring your home purchase was a smooth and positive experience. I promise to provide that same commitment to excellence for your family, friends and acquaintances. Please tell them about me!



## Helpful Hints

### Tired of Losing Your Gardening Tools?

**B**ecause the handles become weathered with wear, gardening tools can be camouflaged when lying in the dirt. To eliminate this problem, paint tool handles a bright color! First, sand off dirt, oil, and varnish from the tool handles. Then paint the handle bright yellow, red, or orange - these colors will be almost impossible to "lose" in the dirt. Use three coats of paint, letting the paint dry fully between coats and sanding lightly before adding each new coat. This creates a hard, bright finish that will stand up to wear and tear.



Eliminate rust on the blades by rubbing with sandpaper and steel wool. Finally, condition the blades by applying a little motor oil using a cotton cloth.

## Health & Safety

### Avoiding Falls

**F**alls, fires and electrical mishaps, in that order, are the most common accidents in the home. The safety of your home can be improved by understanding risks that could cause falls and implementing precautions to avoid them. Most household falls occur on wet or slippery floors, uneven sidewalks, or when trying to reach items in high places.

Follow this advice to avoid falls in your home:

#### Indoors:

- Keep floors dry - wipe up spills immediately.
- Keep stairs and other traffic areas free of obstacles.
- Place area rugs carefully; don't use them at the top of stairs, in entrance halls, high traffic areas or in the bathroom - where a fall against ceramic surfaces can cause serious injury.
- Use a nonskid pad beneath area rugs or put nonskid adhesive strips on the backs to prevent slippage.
- Use only code approved stepladders or step stools to reach high shelves, curtain rods, or light fixtures - never use chairs.

#### Outdoors:

- Replace broken paving stones and fill in pavement cracks.
- Always keep sidewalks clear of snow and salt icy walkways.
- Make sure walkways, porches, and steps are well lit and maintained.
- Don't let leaves gather on walkways, steps and porches.
- Use sturdy non-slip doormats at entryways to the home.
- Install sturdy railings along outdoor steps and paint the edges of the steps white so they are easy to see in the dark.
- To reach high places, use only code-approved ladders and observe the rules on the caution decal.





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*Savor the Flavor*

**Nasturtium Mayonnaise**

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tsp. chopped nasturtium leaves
- 1/4 tsp. minced garlic
- 2 tsp. coarsely chopped capers
- 1/3 tsp. grated lemon peel



Combine all ingredients and chill until ready to use. Great as a dip for artichokes. Can also be used with fish or on your favorite sandwiches.

*Household Tips*

**Cooking With Flowers**

**W**ith over 100 varieties of edible flowers available in North America, why not add them to your next salad or use them to decorate your favorite dish? They add beauty and several have spicy undertones of flavor! Try freezing them in ice-cubes for a pretty and interesting summer refresher! Many gourmet grocery stores sell edible flowers or you could grow your own! If you do grow your own, be sure not to use pesticides on your plants. Some common varieties include: Chamomile, Chive, Chrysanthemum, Gladiola (anthers removed), Nasturtium, Pansy, Primrose and Sweet Violet. Always consult a reference book if you



are unsure if a flower is edible and never use flowers growing in the wild – they may have been sprayed with pesticides.

*Brain Teasers*

**Labor Day Trivia**

1. Labor day is celebrated on which day in September?
  - A. The 5th day
  - B. The First Sunday
  - C. The 6th day
  - D. The First Monday
2. In which year was Labor Day first celebrated?
  - A. 1976
  - B. 1882
  - C. 1876
  - D. 1782
3. Why do we celebrate Labor Day?
  - A. To honor Mothers
  - B. To celebrate the end of summer
  - C. To honor the working class
  - D. None of the above
4. When did Congress officially declare Labor Day an official holiday?
  - A. 1976
  - B. 1894
  - C. 1882
  - D. 1772