



DENNIS GRIGASSY Realtor®

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THINKING ABOUT BUYING, SELLING, OR BUILDING? Contact me first!

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In like a lion, out like a lamb: however it comes and goes, spring is a great time to buy or sell a home. Call me today for a free, insightful market analysis!



Thinking of selling your home? As an experienced real estate professional, I would like to point out the benefits of adding an Old Republic Home Warranty to your transaction. While the home is on the market, Seller's Coverage provides repair and replacement coverage for your home's systems and appliances. It keeps the home showing well during the listing period, which can result in a faster sale at a higher price. At close, the Buyer's Plan seamlessly takes effect, protecting the buyer against potential unknown after-sale problems. Last but not least, the home warranty provides budget protection from the high cost of home repair and peace of mind for both the home seller and home buyer.

Call me today for more information on the value of an Old Republic Home Warranty.

May I assist you by helping a trusted friend or close family member who is in need of professional real estate services? I will make you and your referral my number one priority.



Health & Safety

Annual Home Safety Checklist

No one knows when an emergency will strike that could confine us to our homes, possibly without electricity, running water, or working telephones. That is why experts recommend keeping an "Emergency Preparedness Kit" on hand.

Listed below are items to include in your kit.

Drinking water – enough for several days for each family member.

Non-perishable Food – enough to nourish the family for several days. Include a manual can opener and special food items if required.

Flashlights – at least one, more if possible, and a **portable radio** – and charged batteries.

First aid kit and book.

Cooler to store ice and food – one each for ice and food is ideal.

Large plastic garbage bags and duct tape – for repairs and other mishaps that might occur.

Infant necessities if you have a baby. Blankets, pillows, and sleeping bags – enough for each family member.

Extra clothing – store several pairs of sweats that can be easily used by different-sized family members.

Crayons and coloring books – to keep small, restless children occupied.

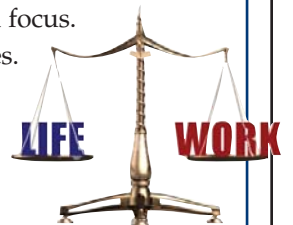


Helpful Hints

Balancing Life and Work

People today work hard and wish for more balance between their jobs and their personal lives. It's no surprise that studies show employees who feel they are achieving a balance in their work and personal lives tend to do better and have more satisfaction in both areas. Creating a balance between work and life outside of work can be beneficial to both employees and employers in the following ways:

- Employees show increased productivity, competency and focus.
- There is more flexibility and team work among employees.
- Morale levels among employees increase, which results in increased levels of motivation and commitment.
- There is a reduction in employee absenteeism.
- Employee retention is increased.



Contrary to popular belief, the over-achieving workaholics are not the ones who are the most successful in their careers — or in their personal lives. Those who realize the most success in both areas achieve a healthy balance in life, on and off the job.



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Savor the Flavor

Moroccan Lentil Salad

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1/2 C. dry lentils | 1 green bell pepper, chopped |
| 1 1/2 C. water | 1/2 yellow bell pepper, chopped |
| 1/2 15-oz. can garbanzo beans,
drained | 1 red bell pepper, chopped |
| 2 tomatoes, chopped | 1 lime, juiced |
| 4 green onions, chopped | 2 Tbsp. olive oil |
| 2 minced hot green chile peppers | 1/4 C. chopped fresh cilantro |
| | Salt to taste |

Place lentils and water in a pot and bring water to a boil; reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes or until lentils are tender. In a medium size mixing bowl, combine lentils, garbanzo beans, tomatoes, green onions, green chilies, bell peppers, lime juice, olive oil, cilantro, and salt to taste. Toss well. Chill for 20 minutes. Serve chilled.

Household Tips

Staging Your Home to Sell

Sellers want a quick sale and top dollar for their home. One of the best ways to achieve both goals is through "home staging" – displaying your home to look it's best. Here are some helpful home staging tips:

- Less is more – no mess, clutter or personal items anywhere.
- Keep kitchen counters as bare as possible. Remove everything from the exterior of the refrigerator.
- Keep cupboards and cabinets organized and neat.
- Keep floors vacuumed, swept, mopped and waxed. Steam clean or replace carpets.
- Place only a few key pieces of furniture in each room – this makes the room appear larger and helps the buyers imagine their own furnishings in the room.
- Open all curtains and blinds, and ensure that windows and sills are clean.
- Remove fixtures that you will be taking with you and install inexpensive replacements.
- Make repairs to cracks in tiles and sinks, flooring, walls, and ceilings; re-caulk bathroom tubs and showers.
- Maintain the yard for "curb appeal." Mow the lawn, trim bushes and plant some yellow flowers (a color that inspires buying).



Brain Teasers



Beware the Ides of March!

1. On what date does the Ides of March occur?
 - a. 17th March
 - b. 15th March
 - c. 10th March
 - d. 1st March
2. Which Roman leader was killed on the Ides of March in 44 B.C.?
 - a. Tiberius Caesar
 - b. Caligula Caesar
 - c. Augustus Caesar
 - d. Julius Caesar
3. Who speaks the line "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears"?
 - a. Brutus in "Julius Caesar"
 - b. Mark Antony in "Julius Caesar"
 - c. Cleopatra in "Julius Caesar"
 - d. Calpurnia in "Julius Caesar"
4. How did Julius Caesar die?
 - a. Stabbed by conspirators
 - b. Crushed by a falling statue
 - c. Poisoned by his mistress
 - d. Fed to the lions
5. In what language did Julius Caesar most commonly speak and write?
 - a. Greek
 - b. Romany
 - c. Latin
 - d. Etrurian

ANSWERS: 1-b; 2-d; 3-a; 4-a; 5-c