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Experience You Can Trust

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There's a famous television show from the 50's and 60's called Dragnet. It centers on the adventures of a no-nonsense cop who famously tells witnesses to give him, "Just the facts, ma'am. Just the facts."

He did that because facts were hard to get, yet very important to his job.

These days, we live in a sea of information. "Google" just about any topic and you'll get thousands of search results. There's no shortage of information. But, it can still be difficult to get to the facts.

Take real estate, for example. There's a lot of news available about what's happening in the national real estate market, current overall housing prices, the best time to make a move, and so forth.

It can all be overwhelming. But, which reports can you rely on?

That's where I can help. As a real estate professional, I'm dedicated to providing my clients with the facts they need to make important decisions about real estate - facts that are backed by comprehensive data and experienced analysis of the local market.

Give me a call to discuss the real estate facts you need.

How To Make Your Home Sale “Smooth Sailing”

If you've ever been on a cruise ship, you know that rough waters can result in a miserable experience. Even on modern ships equipped with stabilizers, choppy seas and bad weather can leave you stuck below deck - and possibly sea sick!



In fact, the expression “smooth sailing” comes from a desire for calm waters.

When you sell your property, you'll want smooth sailing too! You'll want the experience to be as nondisruptive as possible, while also having plenty of qualified buyers interested in your listing. In the end, you'll want the transaction to get done without a hitch.

So how do you ensure that happens? Here are some things you can do to help:

Think of your home as a product. Potential buyers are more likely to become interested in a product that looks clean, uncluttered and well-maintained.

Price it right. If your property is listed too high, potential buyers won't come. If it's listed too low, you may leave money on the table. (Potentially thousands.) Setting the price will be one of the most important decisions you'll need to make when selling your home.

Don't be there during showings. As your real estate agent, I will take buyers through your property and show them all the great features. If you're there, some buyers may not feel comfortable and may leave before they have had a chance to become interested.

Be flexible. This is especially important, when it comes to showing appointments, negotiations, home inspections, closing dates, etc. It's okay to be firm on some things, just not everything!

The best tip of all? Use me as your real estate agent and I will make the entire experience of selling your home trouble-free and successful.

In other words, let me help make it smooth sailing!

Simplifying Your Home Life

Let's face it. Life can get complicated, complex and stressful very easily. Luckily, there are plenty of ways to simplify your life, especially at home. Here are some tips from the experts:



- Don't be ruled by the TV guide. Instead, select the shows you want to watch and record them. That way, you can watch what you want at the times that are most convenient for you.
- Prepare some meals in advance and freeze them. Simply heat them up as needed. That will reduce a lot of after-work, "gotta-get-dinner-ready" stress.
- Create a weekly dinner menu. It takes some time to prepare, but it allows you to shop effectively, and greatly reduces the stress of figuring out what to cook each day.
- Don't accumulate stuff you don't want or need. Give those things away.
- Simplify your cleaning by dividing tasks into 10 minute chunks (such as vacuuming the living room.) Then, fit those tasks in whenever you have 10 minutes to spare.
- To avoid clutter, adopt the "touch it once" rule, which simply means you put things where they belong right away.
- Limit the time you and others in your family spend checking emails and text messages. Consider having an hour or two of "no screen" time each evening.
- Develop healthy routines, such as evening walks and family board game night.

These are just a few ideas. If you want to simplify your home life, you can probably brainstorm several other strategies and habits you can try. The idea is to make your home an enjoyable place to be - for you and your family.

Flexible Dumpsters for Home Renos

New synthetic fabric dumpsters offer a flexible method of holding and disposing of renovation waste - without the need to order a large and unsightly metal bin that sits on your front lawn or driveway for weeks on end.

The industry calls them FIBC's, or Flexible Intermediate Bulk Containers, but they're more commonly known as big bags, bulk bags, bagsters and super sacks.



These durable trash containers can be purchased and taken home (or delivered) for indefinite use, then picked up for a preset fee when full.

When the bag is picked up, another bag is dropped off. Available through specialty suppliers or through some home renovation stores, these "soft bins" are easy to move when empty, and they take up much less space than large metal dumpsters. They also take much less time to fill up, so you'll have a tidier renovation site and less of an eyesore on your property.

Notable, Quotable, Quotes!



“Challenge is a dragon with a gift in its mouth... tame the dragon and the gift is yours.”

Noela Evans

“Anyone can hold the helm when the sea is calm.”

Publius Syrus

“You have not lived a perfect day unless you have done something for someone who will never be able to repay you.”

Ruth Smeltzer

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