



## Real Estate News You Can Use

Brought to you free by Brett Roderman

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### Have You Created Your Homeowner's Journal? Here's How

Once you become a homeowner, you can no longer rely on a landlord to take care of maintenance issues that may arise where you live. Since the responsibility now rests with you, it would be wise to try to stay a step ahead of tasks associated with maintaining your home's condition and value.

To organize and oversee the needs of your home, creating a homeowner's journal will be your best ally to keep track of warranties and manuals for the systems and appliances in your home. Arrange to have a notebook, binder or file drawer as your home base for collected receipts and manuals.

There are several things to collect that will increase the efficiency of managing your home. Ownership information, such as the title to the property, appraisals, inspection reports, home warranty plans, homeowner's insurance and mortgage documents, should all have a place in your journal. Include the dates and contact info for the maintenance and renovation professionals who have performed various tasks around your home. List renovation and purchase dates along with descriptions and samples of finalized work.

If you organize your journal by season or category, you can easily produce a schedule of maintenance tasks. Record projected end-of-useful-life dates for major appliances and components.

Home ownership will run smoothly with fewer maintenance surprises with a working journal. Having a journal also helps assure a future buyer that you have taken good care of your home. It will also be very useful if you consider refinancing your home.

### Meet Dr. Gladys West, the Woman behind GPS Technology

International Women's Day is on March 8 each year, providing an opportunity for us to reflect on the little-known pioneers whose work we may not have heard of due to gender inequality. One such pioneer is the mathematician Dr. Gladys West, whose work contributed to the GPS technology we now rely on for navigation and communication, including in our space programs! Today we take GPS maps for granted, but in the 1970s and 1980s, this technology was groundbreaking.

Born into a rural community in Virginia, West saw education as her ticket out of the countryside. After graduating from high school, she went on to attend college at Virginia State University. It wasn't typical to see women studying mathematics at the time, with West herself saying "You felt a little bit different" to be a woman in a field dominated by men.

When early computers were adopted by the scientific community, West had to shift her work away from paper equations and logic by learning how to program. She worked passionately on creating complicated algorithms, which she programmed into an IBM 7030 (aka Stretch) computer. Using this, she designed a geodetic model that mapped the shape of the earth while factoring in how gravitational pull and tidal forces may impact it. This model was game-changing, as it came to underpin the GPS satellite system.

Dr. Gladys West has finally been credited for her role in scientific advancement, being inducted into the US Air Force Hall of Fame in 2018.

### Famous quotes on renewal

In honor of spring, here are some quotes on renewal:

Every day is a renewal, every morning the daily miracle. This joy you feel is life.  
Gertrude Stein

Each time we exhale, the world ends; when we inhale, there can be, if we allow it, rebirth and spiritual renewal. It all transpires inside of us. In our consciousness, in our hearts. All the time.  
Tom Robbins

Renewal is not just innovation and change. It is also the process of bringing the results of change into line with our purposes.  
John W. Gardner





## How to Celebrate the Women in Your Life Every Day

We all have amazing women in our lives. They might be a mother, a sister, a friend or a partner. Someone who has encouraged us, listened to us and supported us. Brilliant women are often undervalued, which is why we celebrate International Women's Day on March 8. But why wait for a special reason to celebrate the women in your life? Find ways to make them feel appreciated every day by taking some inspiration from this list.

**Write it down.** Don't underestimate the power of a handwritten card, note or letter. There is something thoughtful about taking the time to express yourself on paper rather than shooting a quick text. Write about the ways she adds value to your life and let her know her effort doesn't go unnoticed.

**Anticipate her needs.** Women often spend their time anticipating the needs of others, so take a minute to consider her needs instead. Think of the ways you could make her day easier.

**Tokens of appreciation.** Receiving a small gift out of the blue is a lovely surprise and could brighten up her day. It doesn't need to be extravagant: think of flowers, chocolate, a new notebook, a sleep mask or a gift card for her preferred coffee shop.

**Take a trip.** It's important to spend quality time with the women you care about, so find a way to have some fun together. Go somewhere new or revisit a familiar favorite.

**Good mood food.** Is there anything better than being treated to a nice meal? Liven up your lunch break and visit the cute café down the road. You could take charge in the kitchen, book a restaurant for dinner or even order some delicious takeout.

## Thank you for your referrals!

I succeed when people like you refer me to your friends, neighbors and loved ones. It's the best kind of feedback I can receive.

So thanks for continuing to pass this newsletter on to people you care about.

## Parmesan Broccoli Bites

With broccoli being in season, this quick and easy recipe is the perfect low carb snack, appetizer or side dish to any springtime meal.

Serves 6

Olive oil  
1 whole broccoli  
2 tablespoons cornstarch  
2 large eggs, beaten  
1 tablespoon milk  
1 1/4 cups almond flour  
2/3 cup Parmesan cheese, grated  
3/4 teaspoon paprika  
1/2 teaspoon baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon salt

Preheat oven to 425°F. Coat large baking sheet with cooking spray. Cut broccoli into florets and peel stems. Toss with cornstarch in large bowl. Whisk eggs and milk in shallow dish. Whisk almond flour, Parmesan, paprika, baking powder and salt in another shallow dish.

Dip a few pieces of broccoli at a time in egg mixture, allowing excess to drip off, then dredge in the flour mixture, tapping off any excess. Transfer broccoli to prepared baking sheet. Generously coat with cooking spray. Bake broccoli, without turning, until golden brown and tender-crisp, 25 to 30 minutes. Serve.



## What Are the Advantages and Disadvantages of an Open House?

There are many benefits to opening your home to prospective buyers. Having an open house will increase the visibility of your home and possibly shorten its time on the market. Your pool of buyers widens when noncommitted buyers have an opportunity to freely view your home.

The advantages of your home over other homes in the neighborhood can be better highlighted with an open house. Open houses allow you to set the scene for viewing because you can better prepare for how you want it to show and, at the same time, reach many prospects.

One of the negatives of having open houses is that unqualified buyers may be walking through your home, just being curious to see how your home compares to theirs. Security issues can also arise from having unvetted people investigating your home. Since there can be several people looking at a home at any given time, the disadvantage arises that there is less one-on-one time to spend with potential buyers, creating missed opportunities to secure the best prospect.

# How to Not Get Stressed by Spring Cleaning

It's that time of year when a good spring clean is in order. You know how great you'll feel once it's done, with a refreshed living space and a sense of peace of mind. But getting started can be a challenge, especially if it seems like the size of the task is daunting. If you're procrastinating about your spring clean, here are four tips to help you not become stressed by it.

## Make a cleaning plan.

Rather than trying to get stuck into everything in one enormous, tiring clean, make a schedule for yourself across the course of a week or so in order to spread out all the little jobs, from decluttering to polishing. This will lighten the load and immediately take off some of the pressure that comes with thinking of the spring clean as one massive job.

## Get yourself prepared.

Make sure you've stocked up on all of the household products, new storage containers and tools that will help with the task. As with the previous point, don't worry about having to do this all at once: pick up an item you need each time you go shopping to help gradually build up your armory.

## Think about making a change.

As part of your spring clean, you might want to think about changing up the feng shui of a room or reimagine a space. Doing this will help you to feel more excited about your spring clean as well as giving your home a new lease on life for the rest of the year.

## Don't rush.

Usually the only time pressure on a spring clean is the pressure we put on ourselves. Most of the time there's no deadline for doing it, so lighten the emotional load by allowing your clean to take as long as it takes.

For some spring cleaning ideas that will make the biggest difference when selling your home, give us a call or email us today.



## Quick Quiz

For an answer, email me at [br@brettroderman.com](mailto:br@brettroderman.com) or call 404-229-7600.

*In which year was the first Academy Awards ceremony held?*

# Worth Reading



## How Rest and Relaxation Became an Art

Bel Jacobs  
*BBC*

This fascinating article explores how taking a break has become an art form, a manifesto and a hobby to aspire towards in the modern age. From discussions around millennials embracing JOMO (the joy of missing out) when plans are canceled to recommendations for books exploring the art of relaxing, this piece will help you to slow down and take a breather. More: <https://tinyurl.com/worth0323b>



## Empowered Play: Teaching Women's History through Toys and Games

Katherine Handcock  
*A Mighty Girl*

With International Women's Day on March 8, A Mighty Girl has collated the perfect set of gift ideas to help teach women's history to the little ones. From action figures of pioneering women such as Amelia Earhart and Rosa Parks to memory-match card games featuring inspiring figures such as Frida Kahlo, Malala Yousafzai and Queen Elizabeth, it's a fun way to learn important history. More: <https://tinyurl.com/worth0323a>

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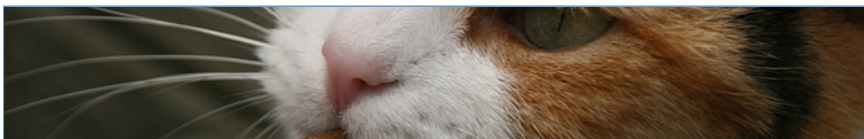
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### Inside Your Newsletter:

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## We can't make this stuff up!

A woman in England spent £7,000 (about \$8,500) on veterinary tests to get her cat's alarming breathing rate checked out, only for the vets to diagnose the cat as being just a little bit weird.

In the waters off Atlantic Beach in north California, a giant sea creature resembling the Loch Ness Monster has been sighted, prompting monster hunters to speculate whether Nessie has migrated from Scotland for a new life in America.

A Las Vegas woman branded "the world's cheapest multimillionaire" revealed she eats cat food in order to save money. The feline foodstuff is a far cry from the lavish lifestyle you'd expect of someone with a \$5 million net worth.

A four-year-old in Queensland, Australia, became trapped inside a claw machine after trying to steal a teddy bear. The tiny thief had to be pulled back out via the machine's hole, as arcade owners had lost the key.

### Wondering What's Happening in Your Neighborhood?

How has the price of your home changed in today's market? How much are other homes in your neighborhood selling for?

These are all critical questions that shouldn't be overlooked when thinking about buying or selling your home. Whether you're curious about prices in your area, whether it's an excellent time to sell, or just need an expert to answer your questions, I can give you the tools and offer guidance through the entire buying or selling process.

Let me know how I can help by simply giving my office a call at 404-229-7600 to set up a time to connect.

### Contact me today:

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