



Real Estate News You Can Use

Brought to you free by Brett Roderman

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Could an A-Frame House Be Right for You?

With their steeply pitched roofs and unmistakable triangular shapes, A-frame houses have a charm that's hard to ignore; with big windows framing beautiful landscapes, they evoke mountain getaways and cozy weekends by the fire. But beyond their picture-postcard looks, A-frames offer a surprising amount of practicality, making them an appealing option for both full-time living and weekend retreats.

One of the biggest draws is their simplicity. Their A-shaped roofs naturally shed snow and rain, making them ideal for harsh winters or stormy weather. And because of their straightforward structure, they're often more affordable to build than many traditional homes, especially if you opt for one of the increasingly popular prefab or kit versions.

Inside an A-frame home, you can expect high ceilings, plenty of natural light and a sense of openness that belies their relatively compact footprint. The upper levels can often include tucked-away lofts perfect for sleeping, reading or stargazing. Furthermore, their rustic-modern aesthetic blends beautifully with nature, making them a favorite for those seeking a retreat-like atmosphere. And if you're hoping to make rental income or eventually sell one, the iconic shape photographs brilliantly, which is never a bad thing when listing a property.

Of course, they're not for everyone. Your privacy can be limited, and the unique shape can require creativity with furniture placement and also means less square footage upstairs. But if you love character and appreciate efficient design, an A-frame might be for you.

Been thinking about purchasing an A-frame home? Call or email me today and we can begin the search together.

The Medieval Craftspeople Restoring an Iconic Piece of French History

In April 2019, the world looked on in horror as pictures were broadcast around the globe of the 800-year-old Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, one of the most iconic structures in European history, as it burned in a raging fire. It was devastating for the country of France; parts of their cultural heritage were destroyed in a matter of minutes right in front of their eyes.

Parisians doubted whether their talismanic cathedral could ever be restored. The sophisticated architecture would require complex building techniques specific to medieval engineering: the special type of wood needed would supposedly take years to properly treat, and even just the knowledge of how to produce medieval ceiling beams had been lost to the sands of time.

And yet hope emerged and prevailed. The Guédelon project, based in France's Burgundy region, has been training craftspeople in ancient building techniques for over 25 years. The project started as an "experimental archeology" pursuit, aiming to build a 13th-century castle from the ground up using the exact techniques, tools and even clothes that would have been used in those ancient times. Master carpenters have perfected hewing beams by hand and delicately and meticulously building structures with perfect authenticity.

The Guédelon's craftspeople and educators were enlisted for the Notre Dame restoration project. Not only did they finish the rebuild, but they also trained other craftsmen and developed tools required to faithfully restore Notre Dame! One of the craftsmen was allowed to marry his sweetheart in the cathedral as a thank-you for his commitment to this jewel.

Famous quotes on loving yourself

Love yourself first and everything else falls into line. You really have to love yourself to get anything done in this world.
Lucille Ball

To love oneself is the beginning of a life-long romance.
Oscar Wilde

I must undertake to love myself and to respect myself as though my very life depends upon self-love and self-respect.
Maya Angelou

To fall in love with yourself is the first secret to happiness.
Robert Morley

If you can learn to love yourself and all the flaws, you can love other people so much better.
Kristen Chenoweth





How Nurturing Relationships Can Be Like Nurturing Plants

Life is better with friends and loved ones, whether it's a social circle of close pals or, with Valentine's Day upon us, that special someone. But it can be overwhelming keeping up all the different friendships you have with different types of people. If this sounds like you, consider treating your social circle like a beautiful plant you're cultivating, focusing your attention at different times on the friends with the attributes you need in that moment.

The leaves: friends who let you be you. On days when you want to express yourself without fear of judgment, these are the friends you need. They know where you're coming from, celebrate your uniqueness and let you openly be the person you are, even if others question you.

The roots: friends who heal and bring you strength. These friends pick you up when you're down, give you a shoulder to cry on when life gets too much and come to your aid when you're in need. They'll help you find joy in dark places and hold you steady when you're weathering a storm.

The flowers: friends who excite you and bring out your personality. We can all do with friends who bring playfulness to our lives, people who fill our worlds with laughter, silliness and adventure. Friends like these will help to show you just how much life is worth living and ensure you make each day count.

The fruits: friends who bring out your creativity. No friendship group is complete without the people who help you to be creative and realize your potential. These are the pals who help you cultivate your ideas, achieve goals and contribute actively to bettering the world around you.

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.

Valentine's Jam Tarts

Makes 12

2 cups plain flour
1 tablespoon caster sugar
1 cup softened butter, cubed
1 medium egg yolk
1 tsp vanilla extract
3/4 cup jam or marmalade of your choice
Salt

Sift flour into bowl with sugar. Add pinch of salt. Rub butter into flour until it resembles fine breadcrumbs.

Using a knife, mix yolk and 2–3 tbsp cold water into dough until wet enough to come together into a ball. Knead briefly until smooth, then flatten into disc. Wrap in cling wrap. Chill for 15 minutes.

Preheat oven to 390°F. Roll out pastry on lightly floured surface to thickness of approximately 3/8 inch, then cut out 12 rounds with 3-inch fluted cutter.

Place the rounds in nonstick patty tin or muffin pan. Drop 1 tablespoon jam into each. Cut out pastry hearts and place them on top. Bake for 10–12 minutes until pastry is cooked and jam bubbles. Remove tarts and cool on wire rack. For an extra treat, add tart to bowl with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Serve.



What Can I Expect from Virtual Tours and Showings?

Virtual tours and showings are a great way to optimize home viewing, but because you are not physically in the space, you need to be aware of the pros and cons of what you are seeing.

A virtual tour guides you through the best features of a home that has been properly staged with touched-up photos. While it may be good for a first look, it won't give you a good feel for the actual spaces or sizes of the rooms or how the home is situated on the property.

Find out exactly what you are seeing and what is not being shown. If the home has a basement, be sure it is included in the tour. Have your agent be your eyes in your absence by checking for any defects, such as wall cracks, evidence of past water issues and any other flaws.

Even though virtual tours may speed up the selection process, you may still want an in-person viewing before making any offers.

Timeless Decor Trends that Will Age like Fine Wine

Some home decor trends burst onto the scene only to disappear without a trace. But a few design choices have real staying power, feeling just as beautiful years down the line as they do the day you bring them home. If you're looking to decorate with longevity in mind, here are some timeless ideas that will continue to shine long after the trends move on.

Natural materials. Linen, wool, stone, solid wood ... these things never fall out of favor. They bring warmth and texture to a room and they age gracefully, often looking better with time. A linen sofa or marble-topped side table won't feel dated even as color palettes and accessories evolve.

Classic rugs. Whether they're vintage or newly handwoven, high-quality rugs in grounded neutral tones have a magical way of tying a room together. Their craftsmanship helps them withstand daily life, while their subtle patterns make them adaptable to changing fashion trends.

Vintage pieces and heirlooms. A single vintage chair or well-loved table adds character that new furniture can't always replicate. The charm of old-style craftsmanship and an item with history can instantly give a space a "collected" feel.

Warm, rich wood tones. Deep wood finishes, be it walnut, mahogany or aged oak, can offer an understated luxury that outlasts trendier pale woods. They add depth and a sense of tradition, whether it's in the cabinets, flooring or furniture.

Subtly textured walls. Walls with subtle texture can introduce dimension without overwhelming a space. Textures such as grass cloth can create a soft, timeless backdrop, pairing beautifully with almost any decor style.

Stripes and clean lines. Stripes, be they on upholstery, pillows, curtains or walls, remain eternally chic. Paired with simple, clean-lined furniture, they can create a balanced look that never feels overdone.

Need some ideas for timeless decor that can improve your home's appeal? Call or email me today, and I'll happily advise.



Quick Quiz

For an answer, email me at br@brettroderman.com or call 404-229-7600.

What was the first film that Pixar released?

Worth Reading



Nontraditional Ways to Celebrate Valentine's Day

Travel Cook Eat

Looking for a Valentine's Day that actually feels like *you* rather than the same old corny tropes? This guide explores fresh and unconventional ways to celebrate February 14th whether you're partnered, single or anything in between! There's a wealth of ideas for activities that'll be meaningful to you and those around you, including ideas for both bombastic or more low-key affairs.

More: <https://tinyurl.com/worth0226a>



7 Simple Phrases to Regain Control in an Argument

Ivy Chan

Ivy Chan Wellness

If you've ever replayed an argument in your head wishing you'd stayed cooler, calmer and more collected, this article may be for you. The secret to maintaining control in tense moments isn't sharper comebacks; it's smarter language that opens thoughtful dialogue between both parties. Grounded in social psychology, these seven simple phrases can reduce defensiveness and help you shift the tone of difficult conversations with confidence. More: <https://tinyurl.com/worth0226b>

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Inside Your Newsletter:

Could an A-Frame House Be Right for You?

The Medieval Craftspeople Restoring an Iconic Piece of French History

How Nurturing Relationships Can Be Like Nurturing Plants

Timeless Decor Trends that Will Age like Fine Wine

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	9	8		5		6		
		2	7			3		
6				3		4		
5			2			8		
8	7					1	4	
		1			8			7
		5		7				6
		6		4	1			
		4		6		7	8	

Sudoku instructions: Complete the 9×9 grid so that each row, each column and each of the nine 3×3 boxes contains the digits 1 through 9. Contact us for the solution!

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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