



Benjamin Burrue



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Between FRIENDS

Putting Great People Together With Great Homes!

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Turn over a new leaf this autumn in a new home! Let's work together to find a home you will fall in love with!



Ready to move on? If you're considering selling your home, add a home warranty to your transaction and sell with confidence! Seller's Coverage protects covered home systems and appliances that may malfunction while your home is on the market. At the close of sale, coverage seamlessly transitions to the buyer, providing them with essential budget protection and priceless peace of mind.

OLD REPUBLIC HOME PROTECTION

No home sale transaction is complete without the peace of mind provided by a home warranty.

Learn more!



People Helping People



Know someone wanting to cozy up in a new house this fall? I truly appreciate referrals to friends and family who are in the market to buy or sell a home.



Health & Safety

Raising Breast Cancer Awareness Together

According to the American Cancer Society, around 13% of American women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime. Raising awareness is essential for promoting early detection and funding critical research. Here are three important tips to remember when working with others to raise breast cancer awareness:

Early detection saves lives. Regular self-exams, annual check-ups, and mammograms after age 40 can significantly increase the chances of catching cancer in its early, treatable stages. Educating women about the signs and symptoms of breast cancer empowers them to seek medical attention when needed.

Support systems matter. Fighting breast cancer is emotionally overwhelming for many women. That's why a strong support network is essential. Friends, family, healthcare providers, and survivor communities offer advice and encouragement, supporting mental health and emotional resilience throughout the journey.

Research and advocacy drive progress. Ongoing research continues to provide enhanced treatment options, improved screening methods, and hope for a cure. Funding for breast cancer research is vital to progress. Advocacy efforts like walks and fundraising events bring communities together and remind us that we accomplish more when we're united.



Helpful Hints

Home Pest Control 101: Keep Unwanted Guests Away

Dealing with pests is not an uncommon challenge for homeowners. From ants in the kitchen to rodents in the attic, pests can cause stress and property damage—and even spread disease. With the right approach, you can protect your home and enjoy life in a pest-free environment.

Identify the problem early. The first step of effective pest control is identifying the issue. Look for signs like droppings, odors, or chewed materials. Each type of pest leaves behind visible clues. Catching the problem early makes it easier and cheaper to resolve.

Prevention is key. The best pest control is pest prevention. Keep your home clean and free of food crumbs or standing water. Seal cracks, repair leaky pipes, and store away food in airtight containers. Trim bushes and clear debris from the lawn to keep pests away from your home's foundation and entry points.

Know when to seek help. Some DIY methods can be effective for minor infestations, but sometimes professional intervention is necessary. If pests continue to surface or if you're dealing with harmful invaders like bed bugs, termites, or large rodents, a licensed pest control expert can assess the situation and apply targeted treatments.



Savor the Flavor

Italian Wedding Lasagna Soup

Ingredients

Meatballs

8 oz. ground beef
8 oz. Italian pork sausage
1 yellow onion, finely chopped
1 oz. parmesan cheese, finely grated
1 egg, beaten
1 garlic clove, finely chopped
½ c. Italian-seasoned breadcrumbs
1 Tbsp. finely chopped fresh basil
1 tsp. fennel seeds, crushed
1 tsp. salt
½ tsp. black pepper

Soup

3 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
1 yellow onion, chopped
1 carrot, peeled and chopped
1 celery stalk, chopped
1 Tbsp. Italian seasoning
½ c. dry white wine
6 c. chicken broth
8 oz. uncooked lasagna noodles, broken into 2-inch pieces
4 c. baby spinach
½ c. Parmesan cheese, finely grated
1 c. heavy whipping cream
Salt to taste
Shredded mozzarella cheese, whole-milk ricotta cheese, and chopped fresh basil, for serving

Gently combine the ground beef, sausage, onion, Parmesan, egg, garlic, breadcrumbs, dried basil, salt, and pepper in a large bowl using your hands. Divide the mixture into 24, one-oz. portions and roll into one-inch balls. Place in an even layer on a baking sheet and set aside.

Heat the extra virgin olive oil over medium-high heat in a large Dutch oven. Add half of the meatballs in an even layer and cook, turning as needed, until lightly browned on all sides. Cook the other half of the meatballs and return all to the baking sheet.

Add the onion, carrot, and celery to the remaining oil in the Dutch oven and cook over medium-high heat until softened and beginning to brown. Add the Italian seasoning and cook, stirring constantly for 30 seconds. Add the wine and cook, stirring and scraping the bottom of the Dutch oven for one minute.

Stir in the broth and bring to a boil over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally. Reduce the heat to medium and stir in the broken lasagna noodles and seared meatballs. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the noodles are tender and until the meatballs reach 165°F. Add salt to taste. Stir in the spinach, Parmesan, and cream. Cook, stirring constantly, for one minute, or until the spinach is wilted.

Serve with mozzarella, ricotta, basil, and additional Parmesan.



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Household Tips:

Shine On: Hardwood Floor Care Tips

Hardwood floors add elegance and value to any home, but they require proper care to keep them looking their best. With the right habits and a little elbow grease, you can maintain their natural beauty for decades. Here are three tips for protecting and preserving hardwood beauties.

Clean smarter not harder. Regular cleanings are essential to preventing dirt and grit from scratching the wood's surface. Sweep several times a week. When mopping, avoid excessive water. Use a microfiber mop and cleaner specifically designed for hardwood floors.

Protect high-traffic areas. Place rugs or mats at entryways, in busy hallways, and near sinks to reduce wear and tear. Place felt pads under furniture legs to avoid floor scratches. Rearrange rugs and furniture occasionally to help the floors age evenly.

Monitor moisture and climate. Wood naturally expands and contracts with humidity. Keep your home's humidity levels between 30 – 50% to help prevent gapping or cupping. Use a humidifier in winter and a dehumidifier in summer. Wipe up spills immediately to help prevent water damage.

