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re you curious about current real estate trends? I've got my finger on the pulse of the local market. Call me today for a free, insightful analysis.



ome warranties vs. homeowner's insurance—what's the difference? **Home warranties** are *service contracts* covering systems and appliances that fail due to normal wear and use. **Insurance** *indemnifies* against *damage or liability* arising from some unknown or contingent event. For example, if a covered water heater leaks under normal use and floods the home, the warranty will repair or replace the water heater; insurance may cover the damage.



o you know anyone looking to buy or sell a home? Send them my way! I'll put my expertise to work to guide your family and friends through their next real estate transaction.

Health & Safety Overcoming Motion Sickness

he road trip occupies a special place in the American psyche, but for those who suffer from motion sickness, hours upon hours of driving may not have the same romantic appeal. The following tips from *WebMD* and the *National Institute of Health* may help you and your family avoid motion sickness during your next big road trip.

Focus on the Horizon: Steadily fixing your gaze where the earth meets the sky may keep your head from spinning.

Don't Drive Hungry: Eating a small, low-fat meal may help stave off motion sickness. Fatty foods can cause problems with your digestive system and bring about motion sickness, as can driving on an empty stomach.

Sit in the Front Seat: Often, riding in the front seat can help someone who suffers from motion sickness to anticipate curves, stops, and bumps, which may help mitigate the problem.

Medication: *WedMD.com* lists dozens of medications that may help prevent motion sickness. Be sure to read about potential side effects and use these medications only as directed.

Real Estate Today

Preparing for Your House Hunting Journey

ome buyers are faced with a dazzling array of choices when they embark on their house hunting adventure, and sometimes it's hard to know where to begin. It may be tempting to explore every possible option, but if you don't narrow down your choices before you start visiting homes, you could waste precious time touring dozens of houses that completely miss the mark.

Start by brainstorming your family's present and future needs. Every home buyer is unique, and only you know what you require in a home. Do you need extra room for a growing family? Excellent schools nearby? Enough backyard space to grow your own carrots? Put it on the list!

Your "must have" and "nice-to-have" checklist will come in handy when you begin touring homes—especially after you've seen a number of properties and they start to blend together. But before you step out the door, give me a call. I know the local real estate market intimately, and I'll do my best to help you find a home that matches your vision... as well as your budget!

If you are working with another real estate professional, please disregard this notice. The material in this publication is for your information only and not intended to be used in lieu of seeking additional consumer or professional advice.

Savor the Flavor

2 (15-ounce) cans of chickpeas, drained and rinsed 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil 1/2 lemon, juiced 2 Tbsp. roughly chopped fresh parsley leaves 2 cloves garlic, peeled 11/2 tsp. salt 1/2 tsp. dark Asian sesame oil 1/2 to 1 tsp. ground cumin 1/4 tsp. black pepper 1/4 cup water Paprika, for garnish

Hummus Dip

Combine all ingredients, except parsley and paprika, in a blender.

Blend on low speed until smooth, and scrape hummus onto a plate.

Sprinkle paprika over top, drizzle a little extra olive oil, and scatter parsley on top.

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Household Tips The Smart Way to Clean a Bathroom

athroom cleaning may be one of life's tedious necessities, but there are things you can do to make this task a little easier. The following tips can shave time off this task and allow you to focus on what truly matters.

Proper Ventilation: Mildew loves moisture, and running a fan before and after showering can help your bathroom dry faster... and make it easier to clean!

Daily Minute: Martha Stewart suggests spending a minute each day wiping down tubs and faucets with a terry-cloth towel to prevent soap scum build up. It'll make cleaning easier down the road!

Use the Right Cleaners: Multipurpose cleaners are always good to have around in a pinch, but when it comes time to attack the bathroom, *Good House Keeping* recommends tub and tile spray for the shower, sink, and tub; glass cleaner for the mirrors; and toilet bowl cleaner for the toilet.

Wash Your Shower Liners: You can usually launder cotton, synthetic, and hemp shower-curtain liners according to Martha Stewart. Use a mild detergent with hot water, then air dry them immediately following the wash.



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