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# Between FRIENDS

**I**f you're considering buying or selling a home this summer, don't wait another minute! Call me ASAP to discuss the current local real estate market.



**A**re you in the market to sell your home? Close with confidence by adding an Old Republic home warranty to your transaction. Seller's Coverage protects your property should a major system or appliance fail and require repair or replacement while it's on the market. At close, the warranty seamlessly rolls over to the Buyer's Plan, protecting the home buyer against potential issues after the sale. A home warranty offers budget protection from the high cost of home repairs and peace of mind for both the home seller and buyer!

## OLD REPUBLIC HOME PROTECTION

We keep your home systems and appliances running smoothly



People Helping People  
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**I**'d love the opportunity to assist your friends and family interested in buying or selling a home. Call me today for more information!



## Health & Safety

### Water Sports Safety Tips

**R**eady to explore the world of water sports this summer? It's important to know the dangers and the necessary safety precautions to take while on the water. Check out these tips to help you stay safe on your aquatic adventures.

**Swim safety** – The most important water safety tip is knowing how to swim. Unsure of your swim skills? Sign up for swim classes at your local city recreation department. Remember to always wear a life vest while on open water.

**Play it safe** – Resist the temptation to consume alcohol while on the water. According to the US Coast Guard, alcohol continues to be the biggest factor in boating-related accidents and fatalities.

**Maintain awareness** – Always be aware of your surroundings. Pay attention to water depths, area rules and restrictions, and layout. Know where the closest hospital is in case someone sustains an injury.

**Buddy system** – There's safety in numbers with water sports. Even if you are kayaking or swimming, make sure that someone is nearby and knows where you are.

**Know your limits** – Don't overdo it. Pay attention to how you feel and listen to your body to avoid strains and injuries.



## Helpful Hints

### Ways to Overcome Life Challenges

**T**hese days, life seems to be throwing us challenges left and right. If you're feeling discouraged, you're not alone. Here are a few ways to overcome obstacles and push forward to brighter days.

- Take a step back and view things from a different perspective. Try to look at the hurdle ahead of you as an opportunity to grow and evolve.
- Seek out a friend or family member for support. It's worth reaching out for their emotional support, even if they haven't shared the same experience.
- Try not to let stress spill over into other parts of your life. Remember to take care of yourself. Get adequate sleep, maintain a healthy diet, and exercise regularly.
- Volunteering your time can be a rewarding experience. Helping others who are struggling themselves can also help put things into perspective.

Life has its ups and downs and can be overwhelming at times. But no matter what happens, don't give up! Leverage these experiences as building blocks for better things to come.



**¼ cup white wine vinegar**

**½ cup dried apricots, chopped**

**1 small shallot, minced**

**2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard**

**1 cucumber, sliced**

**½ head butter lettuce, chopped**

**8 oz. spring mix**

**2 Tbsp. olive oil**

**Sea salt & black pepper to taste**

### Vinaigrette

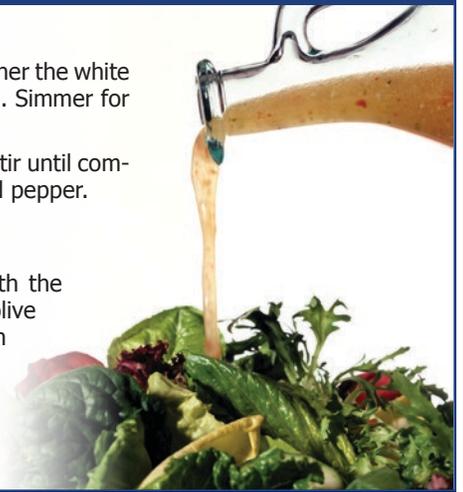
In a small saucepan over medium heat, mix together the white wine vinegar and the apricots and bring to a boil. Simmer for 5 minutes on low. Drain.

Add the shallot and mustard to the apricots and stir until combined. Drizzle 1 Tbsp. olive oil and stir in salt and pepper.

### Salad

In a large mixing bowl, combine cucumbers with the butter lettuce and spring mix. Drizzle remaining olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Toss with apricot vinaigrette.

Serve immediately and enjoy!



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## Household Tips: Landscaping Trends to Try this Summer

Looking for some ways to liven up your yard this year? Here are a few landscaping trends to look out for when you're ready to make a change.

**Grow up** – Vertical gardens aren't new to the world of horticulture, but they are gaining in popularity for many reasons. They're perfect for container gardening, and they can even help you waste less water with the right drainage system.

**The pollinator** – Do your part to help the local ecosystem and promote pollination. Create a pollinator-friendly habitat to attract hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies to your garden.

**Go indigenous** – Take the worry out of gardening by incorporating native plants into your outdoor space. Native plants can withstand the elements and thrive in their natural environment.

**Let it grow** – Add a wild aspect to your garden by leaving it untended. You'll spend less time working in your garden and more time basking in its natural beauty.

**Smart garden** – Automate your watering routine and install a smart irrigation system. Track water evaporation, soil conditions, the weather, you name it! Let the gadgets do the hard work!

