

Advertising Alley

Somerfield News

News that matters.

June 2011



Neighborhood Real Estate

Homes that are on the market in your Neighborhood with the MLS are:

Address	Bedrooms	Model	Bath	Price
1473 Schafer Ave.	3	Newberry	2.1	PC-\$233,000
1526 Schafer Ave.	3+	Lakewood	2.1	PC-\$199,900
1513 Schoenherr Ave.	3	Brentwood	2.1	PC-\$239,900
★748 Dalton Ln.	4	Monticello	3.1	PC - \$339,210
1468 Schoenherr Ave.	4	Savannah	2.1	PC-\$219,500
1474 Glenside Dr.	3	Brentwood	2.1	\$229,999
1430 Glenside Dr.	4	Sutton	2.2	PC - \$275,000
1455 Glenside Dr.	4	Durham	2.1	PC-\$250,000
★1574 Glenside Dr.	4	Hanover	2.1	\$284,529
★1437 Somerfield	4	Ravinia	3.1	NEW-\$289,900

Homes that are currently under contract in your Neighborhood with the MLS are:

1533 Glenside Dr.	4	Hanover	2.1	\$289,900
★1482 Glenside Dr.	4	Durham	2.1	SS-\$229,900
807 Sapphire Dr.	4	Sutton	2.1	PC- \$235,000

★ = My Listing ~ = My Sales

PC = Price Change BOM = Back on Market NEW = New listing on Market F = Foreclosure
 SS = Short Sale BO = Bank Owned TEMP = Off the Market Temporally
 Source Multiple Listing Service of Northern Illinois- June 6th, 2011

Presented By:

Donna J. Hahn

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Get Organized- 7 Simple Schemes

Does your work space look like a complete mess? Do you have to dig through immense piles to get the things you need? Have you ever missed for a job because you were unable to find an important document? From time to time. It happens to all of us every now and then. I'm a fairly cool-headed guy, but not being able to locate something when I need it really challenges that determination.

Disorganization is the crude state of order. Organization takes time. Hiring an assistant is, I suppose, the standard solution. If your business is like most, however, hiring someone just to keep you organized is a waste of money. There are a number of basic changes you can make to your work day that will help you keep everything in its place.

- In order to put everything in its place, everything has to HAVE a place to be put. Designate a place for everything in your office. You can label those places, so it's easier for you to remember. This will make it easier to remember where stuff goes when you're done with it. You won't need the labels for long. Over time it will all become second nature.

- Don't let your stuff out pace your available storage. Not having enough storage makes organization impossible, and but buying office furniture doesn't usually make it to the top of the priority list. Take some time to buy the stuff you need, and while you're at it, get a place for temporary storage. Do you have a tray near the front door of your home where you can hang house keys and place outgoing mail? Most of us do. It just makes it easier to gather our stuff before leaving the house. This can also be done with paperwork. If you're

going to have a meeting or important task that day go ahead and pull the stuff you'll need and put it on this desk!

- Organize one aspect of your office at a time. Get it cleaned up and organized, then try to keep it clean.
- Remember when your mom used to tell you to wash the dishes as you use them? Apply this discipline to your office, too. Whenever you are done with something, put it away, clean it out, and wash it, whatever it is, put it where you found it, so things don't keep piling up.
- Don't waste time constantly resetting passwords and login information. This stuff is way too easy to forget. Keep your password and login information in a single text document, a wiki, some other type of system.
- Using an inbox and emptying it weekly, at least, will never have you lose a piece of paper again. Use the inbox for different things, one for your home papers and one for your office papers, for example.
- Missing or being late for appointments can REALLY hurt your professional relationships. Use a calendar to keep track of events. I use the Google Calendar Application, but there a score of online or desktop calendar apps that do the same things. It provides many features and anyone you allow can view it, it keeps track of personal events, and it reminds you of upcoming events by email and with on-screen pop-ups. This keeps all your scheduling in one place and makes it much easier to keep your tasks straight.

Source: <http://www.articlebiz.com/article/1051451291-1-get-organized-7-simple-schemes/>

If your property is currently listed with another Real Estate Agent, please disregard this notice.

Mortgage Watch!

Courtesy of:



Eric Hamilton

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E-mail: eric.hamilton@wellsfargo.com



Current Interest Rates

Conventional 30-year fixed 4.500%

Conventional 15-year fixed 3.750%

Conventional 5-year ARM 2.875%

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How Regular Maintenance Helps You Avoid Costly Car

Sometimes people hesitate to perform regular maintenance on their vehicles. They think, "It's working fine right now, so why would I spend time and money on it?"

However, it's the regular maintenance that is a key factor in keeping your vehicle running properly. Without it, you could find yourself facing costly car repairs, many of which could have been prevented with the proper care.

So what parts of your car should be getting a regular checkup? Read through the six steps below to make sure you're covering your bases and keeping your car in good shape.

Six Car Maintenance Steps You Don't Want to Skip

1. Oil changes. Getting your oil changed every 3,000 is a must for keeping your car in good working condition. If your oil ever runs out you risk damaging your car permanently, so don't pass up this necessary step.
2. Windshield essentials. Keeping your windshield clean will help it stay in good condition for years to come. You will probably need to replace your windshield wipers every 6-12 months. If they are leaving streaks, it's a good sign they need to be replaced. Windshield washer fluid and the accompanying nozzles should be checked monthly for proper operation.
3. Tires. Your tires are responsible for many of your car's operations, so it's essential to keep them in good condition. Two of the things you want to regularly check are tire pressure and tire tread. Your manufacturer's manual should tell you how often to check the pressure, but it's a good idea to do it monthly in cold temperatures. Have your tire treads checked every time you get an oil change to make sure they are being evenly worn down.
4. The engine. Most people aren't going to check their own engines for proper functionality, but you can check your engine air filter for cleanliness. Every six months or 7,500 miles you should check the air filter to see how dirty it is. If you can hold it up to a light bulb and still see through most of it, it's clean enough to function properly.
5. The battery. Every few months – and more frequently in cold weather – you should check your battery cables to make sure they are securely attached to their terminals. Clean any corrosion from the terminals themselves.
6. Coolant levels. You always want your coolant level to be between the low and the high markings on the semi-transparent bottle that holds it. Once your engine is cool you can open the hood to check the level. If it's too low, simply unscrew the cap and add some more.

Keep your car in great condition by paying attention to these details and performing regular maintenance where needed. You might hesitate to pay for these things in the moment, but they are much less expensive than a major car repair down the road.

Source: <http://www.articlebiz.com/article/1051434920-1-how-regular-maintenance-helps-you-avoid-costly-car/>

brought to you by:



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Areas of Practice

Real Estate, Personal Injury,

Worker's Compensation,

Wills/Trust, Family Law

Save the Electrical Power

Electricity can be considered as the most important requirement you could have with the passage of time. It is natural that you might not be able to imagine the life without the presence of electricity as there are many things that could be carried out only with the help of the electric power. You might be really surprised to know that there are still many places in the world wherein the electric power has not reached with the passage of time. It is natural that you might be required to carry on with certain activities wherein there could be increasing requirements with the passage of time either in the form of the installation of the new socket and so on.

If you are a person with sound knowledge in the electric sector then you will be able to carry on with the task effectively in the right manner without any issues but the things might dramatically change when you are not having any kind of experience with the passage of time in the right manner. There are many firms functioning in the same sector wherein you will be able to get hold of the required help without showing any kinds of distinction. You can definitely move on with the task effectively in the right manner as there are many task that even involves the rewiring of the entire house as your wiring might have worn out with the passage of time. There are many firms and you should try getting the most reliable firm without any concerns as they should carry on with the task correctly by giving at most care to all the steps in the right manner.

You might know about the dangers associated in the task while carrying on with the work in case if you move through some kind of carelessness with the passage of time. Considering these issues you should try your level best in getting hold of the best provider in the most suitable manner without any issues. You can definitely search on internet in order to get hold of the best provider to carry on with the task effectively with the passage of time in the right manner. You will definitely able to get hold of the right firm functioning in your area with the help of best electrician Cardiff in the possible manner without any issues and as a result you should try your level best in the right manner.

We offer professional certified electrician and maintenance solutions for your properties, at very reasonable prices. Here you will get detailed information about our electrical contractor. For more info please visit our website.

source: <http://www.freearticledirectory.co.uk/Save-The-Electric-Power.htm>

Culinary Corner

Grilled Chicken Taco Pizzas

Ingredients

For the Taco Seasoning:

- 2 tablespoons onion powder
- 2 tablespoons garlic powder
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the Pizzas:

- 1/4 cup canola oil, plus more for brushing
- 1 pound skinless, boneless chicken breasts
- 1 16-ounce tube pizza dough
- All-purpose flour, for dusting
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar

Directions

Make the taco seasoning: Mix all of the ingredients with 1 tablespoon each salt and black pepper in a bowl.

Prepare the pizza: Mix 2 tablespoons of the taco seasoning and the canola oil in a shallow bowl. Pound the chicken between 2 pieces of plastic wrap to 1/4 inch thick. Add the chicken to the bowl, turning to coat, and marinate 30 minutes.

Preheat a grill to medium high. Grill the chicken until cooked through, about 4 minutes per side. Let cool, then cut into bite-size pieces.

Divide the dough into 3 pieces. Roll out each on a floured surface into an 8-inch round. Brush with canola oil, sprinkle with taco seasoning and grill until crisp, 3 to 5 minutes per side; remove from the grill.

Mix the cheeses in a bowl, then sprinkle on the crusts and top with the chicken. Return the pizzas to the grill, and cook until the cheese is melted, about 5 minutes. Meanwhile, mix the avocado, lime juice, cumin, chili powder, red onion, and salt and pepper to taste. Top the pizzas with the avocado mixture, salsa, sour cream and cilantro.

<http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/aaron-mccargo-jr/grilled-chicken-taco-pizzas-recipe/index.html>

A letter from a Homeowner...



Dear Donna,

Like most of our neighbors, I was anxious to get outside and work on my lawn and gardens after the winter we recently finished. I found many spots that were bare and made the obligatory trip to the local hardware store to purchase some materials for "patching" and filling in the bare spots in my lawn. A few weeks ago I noticed that the grass was more disturbed than ever and in fact had become worse, with path like trails and even deep holes. I talked to my neighbors and also went online only to find out that what was damaging my lawn was an animal called a vole. These are also sometimes called meadow mice and look very much like a common mouse however untreated they will do much more than damage than a mouse ever would. I went back to the hardware store and purchased some mouse traps along with something meant to kill moles, voles, etc. I successfully caught two of these animals but then noticed that I was seeing 4-5 for the two that I had stopped. Going online I found many articles about voles.

They breed very rapidly. Each can have 3-10 babies every two weeks. Unlike moles, they travel mostly above ground and do not cause the mounded trails that a mole would cause. They instead create channel like paths on the surface of the lawn. Unlike moles, voles do not eat grubs. They feed on your grass roots and also flowers and plants, particularly hostas. They like to make their homes in piles of wood or brush. They also like mulch.

Keeping your grass cut short will not prevent them from coming however it will make them less likely to stick around and also expose them to natural predators (hawks, owls, etc.)

I decided to investigate pest control services and reached out to the normal ones that we all know by name or reputation. The quotes that I received were staggering! I ended up searching more websites and found a service based out of Plainfield. Vince came out the same day that I called and gave me an estimate that was a fraction of the cost of the other more famous company estimates. He came back today and treated the infected areas. Please note that the product he uses is injected 4-6 inches below the surface into primarily the burrows where these rodents are living. There are no surface traps.

Watching these animals swarm after the area was treated only made me even more glad that I had made the call and taken action.

Please let people know that if they do have a problem the only way to get rid of them altogether is to properly treat our lawns. I believe that he would also give Somerset residents a further discount for the referrals.

If you are in need of his service here is his information
Armor Services Pest Control and Landscape
Vince Vazquez 815-267-3000