Realtyinsights

"One's Clutter... Another's Treasure!"

Yes, garage sale signs are becoming almost as plentiful as garden flowers. It's a fun ond profitable way to de-clutter your home - but keep things secure so you don't lose what's not for sale.

Keep the windows, front & back door, as well as the back gate closed ond locked. While you're focused on the bargain hunters, an open door could be an invitation to younger children to go and explore while their porents aren't poying attention.

If the gorage door is open, place tables so as to obstruct anyone wanting to get further into the garage. And put awoy expensive tools and sporting equipment. Otherwise, you may find interested buyers looking through your "other" stuff hoping for o deal.

Have your cordless phone or cell phone with you at all times. This way you don't have to leave your sale unattended if there's a call. But don't put it down, because someone may make on offer!

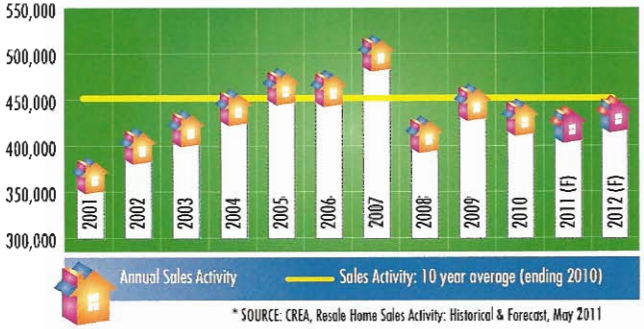
Water Gardening Without a Pond

It's easy to create a water feoture like a fountain or waterfall thot's safe for kids and pets. What's visible is an area of rocks or pebbles with water disappearing into it. The pump ond water are below the stones eliminating the danger of open water.

Dig a hole large enough to hold sufficient water when the system is running... and line it with a pond liner. Most water bosins for fountains are about a foot deep. Put the fountain pump into the hole and cover the hole with a heavy duty grate supported by cement blocks. Cut a hole for the fountain head. Put stones on the grate, fill the basin with woter and it's ready to enjoy.

Looking for ideas? Click on www.watergarden.com

CREA Raises Resale Home Sales Activity & Average Home Price Forecasts

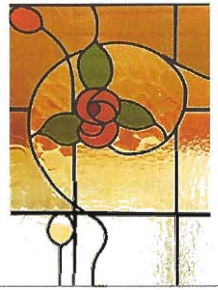


* SOURCE: CREA, Resale Home Sales Activity: Historical & Forecast, May 2011

It's just o nudge up, but it does confirm that across the country, even with the new mortgage rules, sales are moving better than expected.

And home sales should be about the same as last year. CREA's home price outlook also nudged up, with the notionol average home price forecast to rise 4% this year. We've said it before... and we'll say it again... low interest rates will continue to make it attractive to get into a home or move up to a bigger home.

Stained Glass - An Attractive, Practical Home Upgrade



A stained glass window odds "art appeal" and can increase the charm and value of o home. It adds privacy while letting in light.

Plus, when selling, a stoined glass window panel, sidelight, or door, gives your home a unique and memoroble identity.

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Do you like surprises? Some people get a kick out of surprise birthday parties, surprise visits and others even enjoy surprise vacations. Some folks see lack of planning as an adventure.

You know that when it comes to real estate, we work to make sure there are no surprises. If you know someone who's buying or selling and needs real estate market knowledge, we'd appreciate you letting them know about us. We'll work with them to create a plan to make the experience as "surprise free" as possible.

You know us as solid negotiators and you can be confident that we'll bring our professional services to your friends, family, and colleagues.

Best regards,

Doug & Roz

Value = Knowledge + Experience = Advice

Office 403 247-5171
Fax 403 247-5326
dougmaccallum@remax.net
www.dougmaccallum.com

SCAN ME!

Low Rates Continue

On May 31st, the BOC key interest rate remoined unchanged at 1%. This was in controst to forecasts of increasing rates by this summer. Yet, there ore still economists predicting the BOC rate will climb to 1.75 per cent by yeor-end, and even reoch 3 per cent by Q3 of 2012.

Higher rates were on everybody's minds as politicions and bank leaders, on both sides of the border, cautioned consumers that rates would rise. This hold on rotes seems to be coused by negative stock market activity through May and now continued into June. In Canada, core inflation is within BOC's torget ronge, and south of us, the U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman stated, that U.S. economic growth hos been "somewhot slower than expected." So while some predict the fall may see rate rises, our leaders' actions, morket events, employment statistics and more, likely mean no rate rise in Conoda before at least year-end.

As well, it's interesting to note that in the wake of gloomy North American economic data, our Big Bonks once agoin dropped fixed rates on longer-term mortgoges by 10 bosis points at the start of June.

Chonges to mortgage regulotions, that started in April 2011, had some effect on real estote morkets, but overoll, the ongoing low interest rate trend should continue to bode well for the housing market.

Do Home Alarms Stop Burglars?

Sometimes. Because most burglaries are random acts of opportunity. Burglors look for homes that offer easy and unprotected access. Alarms deter. They don't stop. But... alarms get burglors out – fast. If they do break-in, the ossumption is that they only have moments to grab & go. And less time also limits how much they damage.

So "yes" to having o home alarm, and use the stickers provided by the alorm compony, to olert potential intruders.

Doug & Roz – *Your Real Estate Connection*

For Sale

Arbour Lake Estates

"Arbour Lake Estates" with views... o Lake Access Property! One of the very few homes in the N.W. that have this privilege and a fabulous home to enjoy with your family for years to come.

For Sale

Top of Hill in S.W.

Popular Capilano Gardens Condos! Here is a great affordable 3 bedroom Townhouse in Prominence Point with a tandem double garage. Quick Possession if you like!!

For Sale

Side by Side in S.W.

Cottage look in the city on this full Side by Side duplex that has undergone extensive upgrades inside and out. Check out www.dougmaccallum.com for info.

Doug+Roz MacCallum Realtors®

office: **403 247-5171**

dougmaccallum@remax.net

www.dougmaccallum.com

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RE/MAX
Real Estate (Mountain View)
4625 Varsity Dr. NW 222
Calgary, AB T3A 0Z9

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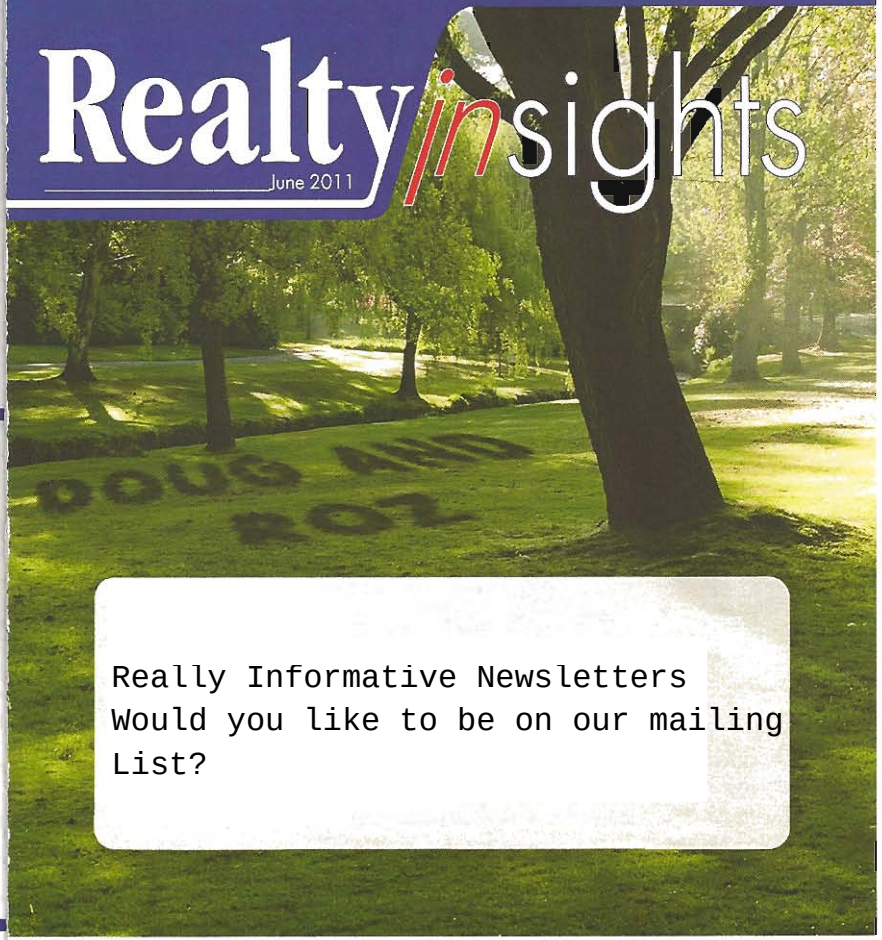

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